

University of Alberta Library



0 1620 3430820 3

E JAY

Volume 73 Number 1

March 2015



QH

1

B65

v.73:

no.1

2015

SCI/TECH

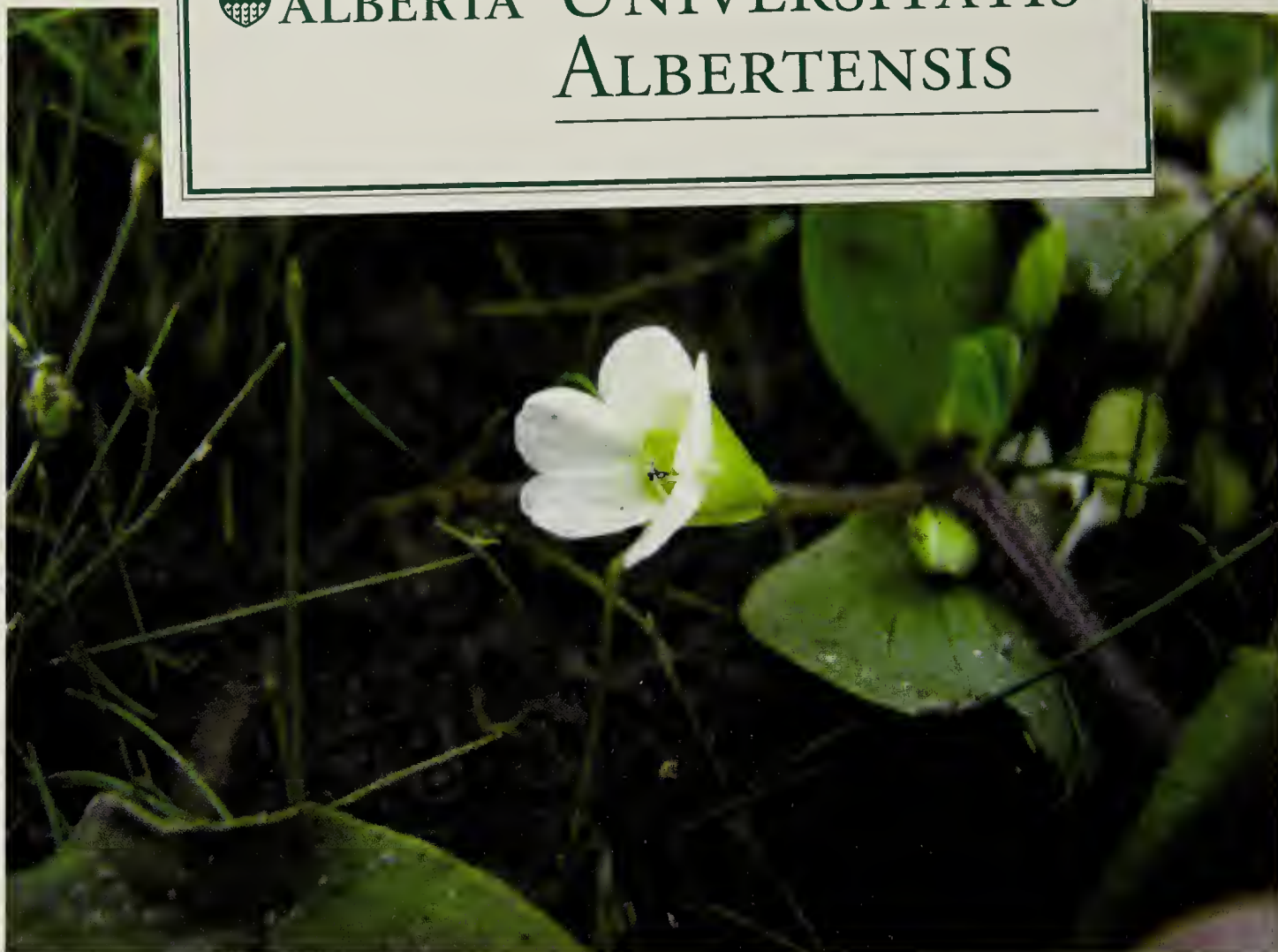
Front Co
Back Co



UNIVERSITY OF
ALBERTA

EX LIBRIS UNIVERSITATIS ALBERTENSIS

Ill Strauss
a Guercio



Bacopa rotundifolia; detail of the flower

- Sarah Vinge-Mazer



Black-throated sparrow

- Joy Snyder Manikel

Blue Jay

Vol. 73 No. 1

March 2015

1 - 60

Birds

73 nd ANNUAL SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT - 2014	
Alan R. Smith and Randi Edmonds	2
EXCEPTIONAL MANITOBA BIRD RECORDS OF 2014	
Christian Artuso and Rudolf Koes.....	26

Mammals

42 nd ANNUAL SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT - 2014	
Alan R. Smith.....	34
OVERLOOKED RECORDS OF RACCOONS IN SASKATCHEWAN	
Leslie M. Oystryk, C. Stuart Houston.....	42

Plants

FIRST REPORT OF DISK WATER-HYSSOP (<i>BACOPA ROTUNDIFOLIA</i> (MICHX.) WETTST.) IN SASKATCHEWAN	
Sarah Vinge-Mazer.....	45

Notes and Letters

<i>Letter to the Editor re: Blue Jay 72 (3) DUCK BREEDING POPULATIONS AND HABITAT, THEN AND NOW</i>	
Lorne Scott.....	50

Mushroom Series

INKY CAPS	
Chris Hay.....	52

Mystery Photo	56
---------------------	----

BIRDS

73rd ANNUAL SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT - 2014

ALAN R. SMITH and RANDI EDMONDS, Box 154, Avonlea, SK, S0H 0C0
Email: alanrandi@sasktel.net

The Counts. Every year we gain and lose a varying number of counts with the result that the number conducted since 1995 has fluctuated between a high of 106 in 2001 to a low of 84 in 2009. The death of Wayne Harris in the fall of 2002 was a severe blow to the Saskatchewan CBC as he had participated in no less than 12 counts the previous winter!

This past winter we lost MacDowall naturalist, Myron Barton who was compiler of counts at MacDowall and Wingard-Carlton. Myron passed away on December 30, the very day that he and the senior author would have normally conducted one of the two counts. In spite of this great loss, 10 new or "revived" counts brought the number of counts to 88 from last year's 85.

The Weather. Average minimum and maximum count temperatures this past count period (with 2013-14 records in brackets) were -16 to -12C (-21 to -14C), wind speeds 7 to 15 km/h (10 to 23 km/h), and snow depths 9 to 21 cm (18 to 34 cm).

All three of these weather parameters (warmer, calmer and less snow) would seem more favourable to greater observer effort, and yet the opposite was true as effort was only 1119 hours compared to last year's 1546. Virtually the same number observers participated (721 versus 736), but it appears they preferred to stay home watching feeders setting a record for the proportion of overall effort spent at feeders at 45%.

We are at a loss for a complete explanation, but we know that the threat of freezing rain caused the cancellation of the Coronach Count. Rain was reported on Weyburn Count - perhaps the first such report in the history of the CBC.

The Birds. The absence of the Coronach Count (which contributes an average of 15,000 birds, mostly waterfowl) resulted in a total of only 84,701 birds, the lowest since 1996. The average number of species per count at 17.2 was slightly below the 30 year average of 17.5, while the overall number of species (87 on count day plus

4 count period species) was the lowest since 1992 (77 plus 7). Again, a count of Coronach would probably have boosted the latter number.

Saskatoon led all counts with 43 species on count day plus 2 more during the count period. The city has held the crown for thirteen consecutive years; the runner up, as usual, was Gardiner Dam with 41 species.

Population Trends. There were few trends of note in the numbers of individual species over previous years (Table 7). Some of these include the continued low numbers of upland game birds except the Ruffed Grouse, and the invasion of Northern Goshawk into the Parklands.

The expansion of the Eurasian Collared-Dove seems to have stalled; for the first time since the first CBC records in 1999 no new localities were added. Numbers of most of the finches including Pine Grosbeak, White-winged Crossbill, the redpolls, and Pine Siskin recovered from last year's crash but not enough to return to levels of the last five years.

New Species: A Golden-crowned Sparrow during the count period at Broadview was the first of its kind for the provincial CBC. A first-winter bird, it was initially seen (and

photographed) on November 16 by Don Weidl and intermittently until Dec 27, when it was seen by Doug Boivin. The CBC list now stands at an amazing 187 species.

Other Rarities. The only other rarity of note was the provincial CBC's third and Saskatoon's second Cassin's Finch.

For the second consecutive winter, a female-plumaged bird appeared at Phil Taylor's feeder, it was recorded during count periods Jan 2 and 4.

Count areas and participants
(Names of compilers are in italics).

1. ARCHERWILL. Gerald Hiron, Susan Hiron, Audrey Hnetka, Perry Hnetka, *Elaine Hughes*, Dorothy Klettberg, Willie Klettberg, Judy Revoy, Stan Revoy.
2. AVONLEA. Randi Edmonds, *Alan Smith*, Blaine Sudom.
3. BALGONIE. Stephane Canévet, Jared Clarke, Fran Kerbs, Laurie Koepke, Jeannette Luther, Kim Mann, Val Mann, *Brett Quiring*.
4. BIGGAR. Mary-Jo Danychuk, Tammy Danychuk, Greg Goring, Linda Schnedar, Lorrie Sielski, *Guy Wapple*, Marguerite Wapple, Rob Wapple, Sandra Wapple.
5. BIRCH HILLS. Carman Dodge, Margaret Mareschal, *Maurice Mareschal*, Don Weidl.

6. BORDEN-RADISSON. Heather Giroux, Kyron Giroux, Jeff Jensen, Ron Jensen, Jennipher Karst, *Stan Shadick*.

7. BROADVIEW. Mary Ann Pearson, Barb Weidl, *Don Weidl*.

8. CHATSWORTH S.D. *George Murray*, Laurie Murray, Kerri Rooke, Stewart Rooke, Carol Tangedal, Rudy Tangedal.

9. CHRISTOPHER LAKE. *Jeannie Walker*.

10. CHURCHBRIDGE A. Elin Johnson, *Ron Johnson*.

11. CHURCHBRIDGE B. *Dennis Petracek*.

12. CLARK'S CROSSING. Dave Cook, Louise Cook, Lorne Duczek, Shelly Fisher, Bob Godwin, May Haga, Marilyn Haskins, Ron Jensen, Heney Klypak, Gordon Koshinsky, Margaret Koshinsky, Sylvia Raginski, Nick Saunders, Marten Stoffel, Mary Toews, Guy Wapple, *Michael Williams*, Dianne Young.

13. CRAVEN. Jody Broughton, Dave Cameron, Liz Cameron, Ron Cameron, Stephane Canévet, Jim Cummings, Stephen Davis, Elaine Exelby, Brendan Graham, Dan Grand, Chris Harris, *Trevor Herriot*, Louise Holloway, Phil Holloway, Norbert Kossmann,

Fran Kerbs, Laurie Koepke, Bob Luterbach, Barbara Mader, Kim Mann, Amelia McDonald, Jared McDonald, Barry Mitschke, Curtis Pollock, Brett Quiring, Ed Rodger, Brian Sterenberg, Jeanette Taylor, Robb Taylor, Mary Worel.

14. CREIGHTON. Karen Prokopetz, *Brenda Schmidt*, Harvey Schmidt, Terry Smith.

15. CROOKED LAKE. *Boyd Metzler*.

16. CROOKED RIVER. *Margaret Mehler*, Morley Mehler.

17. CYPRESS HILLS PROVINCIAL PARK (Centre Block). Dianne Dohie, Jennifer Hoffman, Kathy Lewis, Krystal Lewis, Dave Larson, Margarette Larson, Angela Litke, Wayne Litke, Brynne Martin, Mimi Martin, *Melody Nagel-Hisey*, Matt Robertson, John Schock, Brett Vallee, Greg Vallee, Shayne Vallee,

18. DENHOLM. Beverly Beland, Gerard Beland, Linda Beland, *Orval Beland*.

19. DORINTOSH. *Joe Twidale*, Lorraine Twidale.

20. DUVAL. Ryan Dudragne, Val Harris, Merv Hey, Sheila Lamont, *Lloyd Saul*, Dan Sawatzky.

21. EASTEND. Roxie Binkley, Dwane Bristow, Kevin Bristow,

Betty Davis, Diane Dohei, *Robert Gebhardt*, Sandy Hagan, June Higgins, Joan Hodgson, Harvey Johnson, John McIntyre, Ed Sanford, Mary Thomson, Heidi Topham.

22 EBENEZER 1. Nancy Bird, *Kenn Wood*, Sarah Wood

23. EBENEZER 2. *Harvey Wegner*

24. ENDEAVOUR. Ed Harris, *Norman Harris*.

25. ESTEVAN. Barry Dies, Marilyn Dies, Kathy Hedegard, Larry Preddy, *Guy Wapple*.

26. ESTUARY NORTH. Cathy Cocks, *Dean Francis*, Fran Francis.

27. FENTON. *Carman Dodge*, Maurice Mareschal, Don Weidl.

28. FLORAL. Nick Saunders, Brenda Walker, *Guy Wapple*.

29. FORT QU'APPELLE. Jean Ashcroft, Peter Ashcroft, Shawn Baldock, Linda Banman, Mark Geremia, Don Horsman, Jack Lowe, Alan Mlazgar, Jean McKenna, Paul Paulhus, Wendy Paquin, *Keith Stephens*, Kim Stephens, Ted Stevenson, Colette Stushnoff, Dave Sutherland, Glenn Zimmer.

30. GARDINER DAM. Greg Fenty, Maxine Forsberg, Jeff Jensen, Ron

Jensen, Nick Saunders, Marten Stoffel, Phil Taylor, *Guy Wapple*.

31. GOOD SPIRIT LAKE. *Joyce Anaka (non-participating compiler)*, Dorothy Riesz, Ray Riesz, Lloyd Wilson, Marg Wilson.

32. GRASSLANDS NATIONAL PARK. Jessica Bolton, Eugene Dumont, *Jay Frandsen*, Carolyn Gaudet, Danielle Grant, Donna Grohs, Herbert Lacey, Kevin Moore, Heather Olson, Mark Otway, Carolyn Prentice, Heather Sauder, Kelsey Van Dyke, Nathan Young.

33. GRAYSON. Carina Helm, *Charles Helm*, Linda Helm, Jeanette Zimmer, Karl Zimmer.

34. GRENFELL. Ethel Reiger, Barb Weidl, *Don Weidl*.

35. HARRIS. Ron Jensen, Nick Saunders, *Guy Wapple*.

36. HUDSON BAY. *John Daisley*, Agnes Lewellin.

37. INDIAN HEAD. Gerald Dixon, Kay Dixon, *Irv Escott*, David Gehl, Roberta Gehl, Jim Jinks, Linda Jinks, Dan Loran, Dora Nichols, Lorette Schaeffer, Raymond Schaeffer, Bob Scott, Brian Scott, Glenn Scott, Chad Skinner, Chris Skinner, Fred Skinner, Donna Thompson.

38. KENASTON. Doug Beckie, *P. Lawrence Beckie*, Tyler Beckie, Bev George.
39. KENOSEE LAKE. Boyd Metzler, *John Pollock*.
40. KITCHEN NORTH. *Dallas Fairburn*.
41. KINDERSLEY NORTH. *Jean Harris*, Keith Harris.
42. KINLOCH. *Don Forbes*, Doreen Forbes, Arland Lanning, Clifford Logan, Daryl Siwak, Phillip Siwak, Doreen Wickstrom.
43. KUTAWAGAN LAKE. *Valeriana Harris*, Sheila Lamont.
44. KYLE. Arlene Campbell, David Hamilton, Sig Jordheim, Glen Pederson, Marten Stoffel, *Dan Zazelenchuk*.
45. LAC LAPLONGE. Erin Conkin, John Conkin, *Katherine Conkin*, Aislinn Petz.
46. LA RONGE. Sid Robinson, *John Schisler*, Jan Shewchuk.
47. LAST MOUNTAIN LAKE NWA. *Valeriana Harris*, Sheila Lamont.
48. LEROY. *Lloyd Saul*.
49. LOVE - TORCH RIVER. Theresa Belliveau, Hal Birkett, Joan Birkett, *Bert Dalziel*, Joan Dalziel, Kari Dalziel, Nora Dalziel, Sara Dalziel, Scott Edwards, Ashley Gallon, David Gallon, Elaine Inskster, Roseanne Kirkpatrick, Eilene L'Heureux, Bev Macauley, Dave Macauley, Kieran Nessel, Lillian Nessel, Renny Nessel, Audrey Schrader, Eric Schrader, Al Taylor, Sharon Taylor, Leonard Turtle.
50. LUSELAND. Doug Campbell, Estelle Finley, Graeme Finley, *Kim Finley*, Liam Finley, Sandra Filey, Brent Honeker, Shirley Honeker.
51. MEADOW LAKE. Bill Caldwell, Janet Caldwell, Andrew Wilson, *Bob Wilson*, Ian Wilson.
52. MILESTONE. Randi Edmonds, *Alan Smith*.
53. MOOSE JAW. Ryan Dudragne, Jeff Mander, Dan Sawatzky, *Alan Smith*.
54. MOOSE MOUNTAIN. Bill Fletcher, Doyle Thomas, *Val Thomas*.
55. MORSE. Stella Enns Joel Priebe, Ken Priebe, *Myrna Priebe*, Lori Wilson.
56. NIPAWIN. Theresa Belliveau, *Carol Blenkin*, Nancy Budd, Vi Budd, Joyce Christiansen, Bert Dalziel, Rick Douslin, Patti Gaertner, Jennette LeCuyer, Shannon LuCuyer, George Lidster,

Jeri McCleary, Peter McCleary, Fred Olfert, Doug Phillips, Shirley Phillips, Len Turtle.

57. NISBET FOREST, NORTHWEST.

Sandra Jewell.

58. NISBET FOREST, WEST. *Kim Clark.*

59. ODESSA. *Arden Curts*, Denise Curts, Denny Curts.

60. OGEMA. Randi Edmonds, *Alan Smith.*

61. OUTLOOK. *Alan Smith*, Graham Thomson.

62. PIKE LAKE. Alison Baudru, Denis Bezoplenko, Carol Blenkin, Donna Bruce, Dave Cook, Louise Cook, Yvonne Cuttle, Elsbeth Dormuth, Lorne Duczek, Raea Gooding, Kyron Giroux, Bob Girvan, May Haga, Greg Hutchings, Ron Jensen, Audrey MacKenzie, Bill MacKenzie, *Murray Morgan*, Keith Paul, John Patterson, Wayne Provicki, Mark Sabourin, Nick Saunders, Jan Shadick, Stan Shadick, Phil Taylor, Michael Williams.

63. PRINCE ALBERT. Doug Braaten, Marie Braaten, Michelle Braaten, Kim Clark, Kiri Clark, Shamara Clark, Suzanne Clark, *Carman Dodge*, Margaret Ferguson, Millie Fillmore,

Andrea Fisher, Harold Fisher, Josias Furstenburg, Hamilton Greenwood, Ruth Griffiths, Ron Jensen, Sandra Jewel, Gwen Klebek, Collin McGuire, John Rye, Faith Tait, Phil Taylor, Don Weidl.

64. PRINCE ALBERT N.P. *Jeannie Walker.*

65. QU'APPELLE. Jean Ashcroft, Peter Ashcroft, *Christine Blair*, Lillian Longpre, Paul Paulhus, Colette Strushnoff, Richard Strushnoff, Frank Veresh.

66. QU'APPELLE VALLEY DAM. Dale Booth, Shelly Fisher, May Haga, Robert Johanson, Nick Saunders, Jan Shadick, Stan Shadick, Marten Stoffel, Guy Wapple, *Michael Williams.*

67. RAYMORE. *Valeriana Harris*, Sheila Lamont.

68. REGINA. Don Bjerkie, Maryanne Bjerkie, Lionel Bonneville, Stéphane Bonneville, Lolamae Crawley, Ron Crawley, Jim Elliot, Ruth Englund, Jackie Fauth, Phil Fauth, Terry Ford, Shirley Friel, Chris Harris, Karen Herriot, Kate Herriot, Trevor Herriot, Dale Hjertaas, Phyllis Isley, Laurie Koepke, Fran Krebs, Linda Langenbacher, Maureen Lee, Luciel Lipka, Mike Lipka, Bob Luterbach, Lauren Mang, Kim Mann, Val Mann, Carolyn Pepper, Wayne Pepper, *Brett Quiring*, Chris

Ratch, Ed Roger, Daniel Sawatzky, Chris Selinger, Nick Selinger, Joanne Shurvin-Martin, Margaret Skeel, Frank Switzer.

69. ROKEBY. Clarence Bishop, Blake Harris, Lloyd Liebracht, Morley Maier, Lorne Niebergal, Fred Phillips, *Martin Phillips*, Kirk Screpnek, Ray Thies.

70. ROSCOMMON S.D. Bernice Althouse, Kate Althouse, Marjorie Finnie, Ruby Finnie, Brian Irving, Joan Lillibo, *Dianne Sloan*, Graham Sloan, Marguerite Sloan.

71. ROULEAU. Allen McGratten, Noreen McGratten, *Patricia Sterzuk*.

72. ROUND LAKE (Prince Albert Area) *Crystal Frenette*.

73. ROUND LAKE (Qu'Appelle Valley. *Boyd Metzler*, Mary Ward, Pat Ward.

74. SALT COATS. *Arden Bradford*, Donna Bradford, Walter Farquharson, Dave Herron, G. Herron, Gerri Knudsen, Ron Knudsen, Fern Mckay, M. Nichol, B. Torrie, H. Torrie, Randy Torrie, S. Torrie, Verne Truwell, Joan Wilson, Rob Wilson.

75. SASKATCHEWAN LANDING PROVINCIAL PARK. Ryan McDowell, Casey Rempel, Marten Stoffel, *Dan Zazelenchuk*.

76. SASKATCHEWAN RIVER FORKS. Carman Dodge, *Don Weidl*.

77. SASKATOON. Bruce Acton, Joanne Adams, Allison Baudru, Neva Bayliss, Jim Beveridge, Janny Bos, Eveline Boudreau, Heather Brenneman, Annemarie Buchmann-Gerber, Heinz Buchmann, Jacquie Christensen, Ewen Coxworth, Laurel Duczek, Lorne Duczek, Anne Dzus, Melanie Elliott, Kathy Exner, Joan Feather, Lesley Fell, Joanne Ferguson, David Forbes, Cathy Fry, Joe Fry, Chris Gilbert, Heather Giroux, Kyron Giroux, Mike Gollop, May Haga, Audrey Hall, Anne Hanbidge, Helen Hanbidge, John Hanbidge, Marlene Hanbidge, Donna Haugen, Kathy Holtslander, Stuart Houston, Marlene Kalanack, Arlene Karpan, Richard Kerbes, Helen Klypak, Gordon Koshinsky, Margaret Koshinsky, Anna Leighton, Ted Leighton, Audrey MacKenzie, Bill MacKenzie, Priscilla Mah, Kalman McCann, Colleen Meldrum, David Miller, Jean Mitchell, Kerry Mitchell, Larry Mitchell, Scott Mitchell, Hilda Noton, Bernice Nyeste, Ken Nyeste, John Patterson, Asha Perera, Dorothy Riemer, Marella Rosta, Mary Jean Roy, Marc Sabourin, Craig Salisbury, Lorriene Salisbury, Richard Santo, Trish Santo, Nick Saunders, Margie Scharf, Murray Scharf, Doug Schmeiser, Irene Schmeiser, Hnery Shpyth, Laurie Slinger, Jan

Solem, Jennifer Solem, Marten Stoffel, Margot Taylor, Phil Taylor, Lillian Thorpe, Dave Tyler, Mary Tyler, Hilda Voth, Guy Wapple, George West, *Michael Williams*, Helen Wilkins, Jim Wood, Sandy Woynarski, Stan Woynarski, Grant Wright, Dianne Young, Norman Zlotkin.

78. SAWYER LAKE. Maureen Blight, *David Weiman*.

79. SHAMROCK. Mike Francis, *Hugh Henry*, Randel McCulloch, Ryan McCulloch, Iris McNeill, Darwin Menke, Ken Priebe, Myrna Priebe, Darwin Seidler.

80. SPINNEY HILL. *Ed Driver*, Margaret Driver.

81. SQUAW RAPIDS. Bert Dalziel, Joan Dalziel, *Valeriana Harris*, Sheila Lamont.

82. SWIFT CURRENT. Karl Bazin, Sara Bazin, Jacquie Bolton, Eunice Cammell, Norris Currie, Laurent Dudragne, Mary Ann Dudragne, Arnie Ens, Lorna Fast, Dave Green, Esther Green, Katie Hagman, Norma Hain, Leonard Head, *Hugh Henry*, Leonard Howes, Lois Howes, Stephanie Kaduck, Tommy Kirk, Verna Lynn Knipfel, Dot Letkeman, Maxine Lundman, Janet Payne, Harold Steppuhn, Sue Steppuhn, Irene Stinson, Sharlane Toole.

83. THICKWOOD HILLS-SPIRITWOOD. Harold Fast, Margie Fast, Giles Lalone, Susan Lalonde, *Philip Wilson*.

84. TOGO. Betty Burback, Del Burback, Kevin Chutskoff, Donna Dewores, *Doug Elsasser*, Ed King, Louise King, William Koreliuk, Karen Leis, Barb Leppky, Jim Leppky, Mabel Skinner, Marty Skinner, Zoria Woodworth.

85. WEYBURN. John Ferrier, Glen Fleming, Millie Fleming, Dale Huff, Sandi Huff, Ken LeBlanc, Charlotte Payak, Don Payak, Doyle Thomas, Tanis Thomas, *Val Thomas*, John Whitell.

86. WHITE BEAR. Greg Nelson, Yvonne Nelson, Glen Pederson, *Dan Zazelenchuk*.

87. WHITEWOOD. Ken Aldous, Carole Armstrong, Cindy Ashfield, Joe Ashfield, Paul Ashfield, Grant Erickson, Joyce Kydd, Florence Luhtala, Sarah Manbourg, *Boyd Metzler*, Harry Mitchell, Marilyn Mitchell, Donna Mohr, Brenda Pollock, John Pollock, Tony Saltasuk, Dawn Vennard, Diane Veresh, Pat Ward.

88. YORKTON. Joyce Anaka, Brian Beck, Lorna Bright, Vern Brown, Warren Crossman, Cheryl Fraser, Bob Graham, Art Loucks, George Maben, Gloria Rathgeber, Dorothy Riesz, Ray Riesz, Don Ruf, *Geoff Rushowick*, James Rushowick, Dorothy Skene, Stan Williams.

Table 1-1. Weather and Snow Cover.

Locality		Minimum Temp (°C)	Maximum Temp (°C)	Minimum Wind (km/hr)	Maximum Wind (km/hr)	Minimum Snow (cm)	Maximum Snow (cm)	Sky A.M.	Sky P.M.
Archerwill	22 Dec 2014	-5	-4	3	6	6	6	cloudy	cloudy
Avonlea	3 Jan 2015	-12	-11	10	30	10	20	mod. Snow	mod. snow
Balgonie	3 Jan 2015	-23	-21	10	20	10	15	mostly clear	mostly clear
Biggar	27 Dec 2014	-14	-7	10	25	5	20	overcast	overcast
Birch Hills	20 Dec 2014	-9	-7	2	5	6	10	mod fog	mod. fog
Borden-Radisson	18 Dec 2014	-7	-5	9	16	0	15	overcast	overcast
Broadview	26 Dec 2014	-29	-20	0	0	3	4	clear	clear
Chatsworth S.D.	27 Dec 2014	-12	-2	5	5	5	20	mostly clear	mostly clear
Christopher Lake	18 Dec 2014	-8	-6	0	0	4	6	mod. fog	heavy fog
Churchbridge 1	27 Dec 2014	-27	-18	15		5		clear	clear
Churchbridge 2	27 Dec 2014			2	5	12	15	clear	clear
Clark's Crossing	20 Dec 2014	-8	-6	3	16	10	30	overcast	cloudy
Craven	20 Dec 2014	-6	0	5	25	20	30	light fog	overcast
Creighton	3 Jan 2015	-34	-27	10	20	40	60	mostly clear	mostly clear
Crooked Lake	22 Dec 2014	-4	-3	10	15	8	22	heavy snow	mod. snow
Crooked River	1 Jan 2015	-23	-15	2	5			partly cloudy	cloudy
Cypress Hills P.P.	27 Dec 2014	-6	-4	0	5	5	10	cloudy	cloudy
Denholm	25 Dec 2014	-17	-11	0	12	3	20	clear	overcast
Dorintosh	17 Dec 2014	-8	-7	6	11	12	18	cloudy	cloudy
Duval	21 Dec 2014	-8	-4	5	10	0	35	clear	partly cloudy
Eastend	2 Jan 2015	-4	-7	20	30	0	10	partly cloudy	overcast
Ebenezer 1	27 Dec 2014	-20	-20	3	3	6	10	cloudy	cloudy
Ebenezer 2	30 Dec 2014	-19	-14	20	29			cloudy	cloudy
Endeavour	29 Dec 2014	-38	-26	0	3	23	30	clear	mostly clear
Estevan	15 Dec 2014	-7	-5	5	11	0	15	mostly clear	overcast
Estuary North	1 Jan 2015	0	3	5	10	2	5	overcast	overcast
Fenton	19 Dec 2014	-8	-7	0	0	0	2	mod fog	light fog
Floral	14 Dec 2014	-6	-4	0	16	5	20	overcast	mostly clear
Fort Qu'Appelle	19 Dec 2014	-7	-4	0	5	5	20	light fog	overcast
Gardiner Dam	15 Dec 2014	-5	-4	8	10	0	10	partly cloudy	partly cloudy
Good Spirit Lake	19 Dec 2014	-6	-5	0	0	12	18	light fog	light fog
Grasslands N.P.	16 Dec 2014	-15	-6	20	29	0	5	overcast	overcast
Grayson	27 Dec 2014	-20	-11	0	10	5	15	light snow	partly cloudy
Grenfell	4 Jan 2015	-36	-30	5	25	8	14	clear	clear
Harris	14 Dec 2014	-8	-5	18	25	0	30	overcast	partly cloudy
Hudson Bay	27 Dec 2014								
Indian Head	27 Dec 2014	-11	-9	5	15	30	30	cloudy	cloudy
Kenaston	26 Dec 2014	-14	-9	10	10	20		clear	overcast
Kenosee Lake	30 Dec 2014	-28	-18	15	20	1	15	clear	mostly clear
Ketchen North	26 Dec 2014	-24	-20	2	5	25	35	overcast	cloudy
Kindersley North	26 Dec 2014	-14	-12	2	2			mostly clear	clear
Kinloch	20 Dec 2014	-6	-5	2	5	0	15	overcast	cloudy
Kutawagan Lake	4 Jan 2015	-39	-26	2	25	1	30	mostly clear	partly cloudy
Kyle	19 Dec 2014	-13	-3	0	10	0	10	clear	clear
Lac La Plonge	29 Dec 2014	-25	-23	5	10	15	40	partly cloudy	partly cloudy

Table 1-2. Weather and Snow Cover.

Locality		Minimum Temp (°C)	Maximum Temp (°C)	Minimum Wind (km/hr)	Maximum Wind (km/hr)	Minimum Snow (cm)	Maximum Snow (cm)	Sky A.M.	Sky P.M.
La Ronge	26 Dec 2014	-25	-24	0	5	60	60	partly cloudy	light snow
LMLNWA	5 Jan 2015	-29	-20	12	25	0	50	mostly clear	clear
Leroy	5 Jan 2015	-24	-22	5	20	2	60	clear	mostly clear
Love-Torch River	26 Dec 2014	-30	-18	0	10	20	30	cloudy	light snow
Luseland	26 Dec 2014	-18	-8	0	10	5	21	mostly clear	mostly clear
Meadow Lake	25 Dec 2014	-20	-20	2	10	2	15		clear
Milestone	29 Dec 2014	-27	-20	2	11	5	10	mostly clear	cloudy
Moose Jaw	14 Dec 2014	-3	-2	22	29	0	2	overcast	overcast
Moose Mountain	5 Jan 2015	-22	-20	2	5	40	45	mostly clear	clear
Morse	19 Dec 2014	-13	2	2	5	1	30	mostly clear	mostly clear
Nipawin	27 Dec 2014	-30	-25	0	0	15	15	clear	clear
Nisbet Forest NW	4 Jan 2015	-32	-31	19	29	19		clear	
Nisbet Forest West	31 Dec 2014	-6	-4	5	10	10	20	partly cloudy	partly cloudy
Odessa	24 Dec 2014	-25	-10	15	25	20	30	overcast	overcast
Ogema	30 Dec 2014	-23	-17	6	19	5		clear	partly cloudy
Outlook	26 Dec 2014	-16	-11	4	12	5	10	clear	clear
Pike Lake	3 Jan 2015	-36	-19	0	39	5	35	partly cloudy	mostly clear
Prince Albert	14 Dec 2014	-2	2	10	10	4	4	overcast	overcast
Prince Albert N.P.	4 Jan 2015	-6	-5	0	0	3	4		
Qu'Appelle	28 Dec 2014	-28	-21	2	10	15	25	clear	clear
Qu'Appelle Dam	14 Dec 2014	-5	-3	16	33	2	15	cloudy	cloudy
Raymore	25 Dec 2014	-23	-8	15	25	10	15	light snow	mostly clear
Regina	27 Dec 2014	-13	-10	3	10	3	30	light snow	light snow
Rokeby	5 Jan 2015	-25	-18	10	10	8	15	clear	clear
Roscommon S.D.	1 Jan 2015	-15	-6	2	5	25	30	overcast	overcast
Rouleau	31 Dec 2014	-10	-4	12	29			cloudy	clear
Round Lake (PA)	2 Jan 2015	-31	-26	5		18	20	clear	mostly clear
Round Lake (Q.V.)	16 Dec 2014	-7	-5	5	10	3	12	light snow	light snow
Saltcoats	27 Dec 2014							partly cloudy	partly cloudy
Sask. Landing P.P.	29 Dec 2014	-28	-21	9	15	4	10	partly cloudy	partly cloudy
Sask. River Forks	15 Dec 2014	-7	-6	10	10	4	5	overcast	overcast
Saskatoon	31 Dec 2014	-17	-12	6	24	5	20	partly cloudy	mostly clear
Sawyer Lake	27 Dec 2014	-8	-6	15	45	20	35	partly cloudy	
Shamrock	2 Jan 2015	-12	-10	35	45	15	15	overcast	overcast
Spinney Hill	22 Dec 2014	-8	-5	0	10	2	15	light fog	mostly clear
Squaw Rapids	2 Jan 2015	-22	-21	10	15	20	30	mostly clear	overcast
Swift Current	20 Dec 2014	0	2	30	40	0	8	partly cloudy	clear
Thickwod-Spiritwood	21 Dec 2014	-8	-7	5	15	1	15	mod. fog	overcast
Togo	3 Jan 2015	-27	-24	15	25	20	30	clear	mostly clear
Weyburn	20 Dec 2014	-3	1	10	12	30	35	overcast	rain
White Bear	4 Jan 2015	-33	-25	0	16	0	10	clear	clear
Whitewood	28 Dec 2014	-18	-10	6	11	6	30	light snow	overcast
Yorkton	29 Dec 2014	-31	-21	11	21	3	35	clear	clear

Table 2-1. Effort and Habitat Coverage. Wild Fruit: p=poor, f=fair, g=good, e=excellent.

Locality	Effort						Habitat Coverage (%)															
	Participants	Km on foot	Hours on foot	Km by vehicle	Hours by vehicle	Hours at feeders	Evergreen forest	Mixedwood forest	Deciduous forest	Aspen grove/farmland	Aspen grove/prairie	Native prairie	Tame pasture	Farmland	Farmsteads	Urban	Open water	Riparian	Shield, bog,swamp	Wild Fruit Crop		
Archerwill	9	10.0	3.3	5	0.3	10.0		25						50	25							100
Avonlea	3	5.0	1.5	75	5.0	1.0			15				5	50	5	25				p		100
Balgonie	8	7.0	3.0	352	16.0	0.0				35	5			40	5	15				f		100
Biggar	9	15.0	11.5	311	9.8	5.0				25				40	10	25				f		100
Birch Hills	4	2.0	3.0	339	18.8	2.0				35			5	35	10	5		10		p		100
Borden-Radisson	6	2.0	2.0	300	10.8	0.0				45				30		20		5		g		100
Broadview	3	2.0	1.0	130	6.0	4.0			20	35		5		25	5	10				p		100
Chatsworth S.D.	6	2.0	3.0	70	4.0	2.0				80		10			10					f		100
Christopher Lake	1	10.0	2.5	0	0.0	0.0		60			30					10				p		100
Churchbridge 1	2	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	3.0									100							100
Churchbridge 2	1	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	6.0									100					f		100
Clark's Crossing	18	24.6	16.7	515	28.9	4.0			2	22	6	3	1	17	22	20	2	5		f		100
Craven	30	32.4	14.5	520	32.3	11.0				10	10			40	10	30				f		100
Creighton	4	5.0	2.5	320	12.0	3.0	10	40								30			20	f		100
Crooked Lake	1	1.0	1.0	155	4.5	0.0			10	10					5	55	20			p		100
Crooked River	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.0		40						40	20					f		100
Cypress Hills P.P.	16	8.0	5.0	15	1.0	0.0	40	40	8			10			2					f		100
Denholm	4	0.0	0.0	200	7.5	4.0				10			5	70	5	5		5		g		100
Dorintosh	2	3.0	1.5	25	2.0	2.5		60						40						g		100
Duval	6	8.0	3.5	354	13.0	0.0				20	30		5	20	10	10		5		g		100
Eastend	14	14.5	4.5	210	11.5	0.0		5		20	60		5	5		5	<1			p		100
Ebenezer 1	3	8.0	5.0	30	2.0	5.0					60				5			35		f		100
Ebenezer 2	1	0.0	0.0	34	4.5	3.0		20				20	25	30	5							100
Endeavour	2	0.0	0.0	80	10.0	8.0		10		20				30	30	10				p		100
Estevan	5	9.0	6.8	142	6.0	4.0								20	4	27	31	18		f		100
Estuary North	3	2.0	2.0	13	6.0	3.0														g		
Fenton	3	1.0	0.5	101	4.8	0.0														p		
Floral	3	7.0	5.5	180	5.3	1.0				30				40	9	21				f		100
Fort Qu'Appelle	17	0.0	0.0	280	18.0	10.0				25	20		10	20	4	20	1			g		100
Gardiner Dam	8	21.0	15.3	428	15.5	1.0				5				50	9	10	26			f		100
Good Spirit Lake	4	0.0	0.0	123	6.0	2.0				90						10				p		100
Grasslands N.P.	14	4.5	2.0	255	15.0	0.0						70	5	15		5		5				100
Grayson	5	3.0	1.0	114	5.0	2.0				40				10	10	20	10	10		p		100
Grenfell	3	0.0	0.0	130	6.5	0.0			15	15		5	15	25	10	15				p		100
Harris	3	12.0	9.0	178	6.0	0.0				12				40	12	36				f		100
Hudson Bay	2	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	4.0									100					f		100
Indian Head	19	4.0	3.5	329	7.0	17.0	5			9				75	5	5	1			p		100
Kenaston	4	0.0	0.0	142	6.0	2.0						5		90	5							100
Kenosee Lake	2	2.0	1.0	136	4.5	1.0			30	30	10					30				f		100
Ketchen North	1	1.0	1.5	50	2.5	5.0					30		20	20	20	10						100
Kindersley North	2	0.0	0.0	80	4.0	0.0																
Kinloch	7	8.0	4.0	151	6.0	7.0	20	30	10	10					30					f		100
Kutawagan Lake	2	0.5	0.5	154	6.3	0.3				10	5	5		55	10	15				f		100
Kyle	6	4.0	2.0	274	12.0	4.0					5	5	5	35	35	10		5		g		100
Lac La Plonge	4	0.0	0.0	40	4.0	0.5	25	35	25							15				g		100

Table 2-2. Effort and Habitat Coverage. Wild Fruit: p=poor, f=fair, g=good, e=excellent.

Locality	Effort						Habitat Coverage (%)															
	Participants	Km on foot	Hours on foot	Km by vehicle	Hours by vehicle	Hours at feeders	Evergreen forest	Mixedwood forest	Deciduous forest	Aspen grove/farm land	Aspen grove/prairie	Native prairie	Tame pasture	Farm land	Farmsteads	Urban	Open water	Riparian	Shield, bog,swamp	Wild Fruit Crop		
La Ronge	3	0.0	0.0	44	5.0	1.0	30	10								60					g	100
LMLNWA	2	1.0	0.5	193	7.5	0.7				10		15	5	45	5	20					f	100
Leroy	1	2.0	1.0	153	5.0	0.0				75				5	10	10					g	100
Love-Torch River	24	1.0	1.0	331	10.5	33.0	10	10		60					10	10					p	100
Luseland	8	7.5	3.0	299	13.0	6.0				55	5	5	5	20	5	5					g	100
Meadow Lake	5	5.0	4.0	120	4.0	4.0		50						30		20					f	100
Milestone	2	0.0	0.0	100	4.3	0.0								70	5	25						100
Moose Jaw	4	23.5	8.6	242	6.0	0.0			5					55	5	25	5	5			g	100
Moose Mountain	3	0.0	0.0	78	5.0	0.0			67			2		20	3	8					f	100
Morse	5	3.0	1.3	437	16.0	1.0							3	90	7						g	100
Nipawin	17	0.0	0.0	193	8.0	18.5	10	5		5				35	10	30	5				f	100
Nisbet Forest NW	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0									100						g	100
Nisbet Forest West	1	1.0	1.0	100	3.0	0.0	20	30		10				30		10					f	100
Odessa	3	8.0	4.0	40	2.0	2.0					20	20	25	15	20						f	100
Ogema	2	2.0	0.5	90	3.8	0.0								65	10	25						100
Outlook	2	3.0	2.5	105	3.0	0.5			5		5		10	20	5	50	5				e	100
Pike Lake	27	176.0	20.3	374	23.0	1.0			34	5	14	14	5	14	14						f	100
Prince Albert	23	23.2	10.7	409	22.2	5.0															p	
Prince Albert N.P.	1	18.0	4.5		0.0	0.0		100													p	100
Qu'Appelle	8	1.0	0.5	246	7.5	3.0				60	5		5	20	5	5					f	100
Qu'Appelle Dam	10	16.0	14.0	559	18.2	0.0			2	33	2		19	5	9	23	2	5			f	100
Raymore	2	0.5	0.3	167	8.2	0.5				25			5	35	10	25					f	100
Regina	39	76.5	30.2	506	26.9	10.0			3	10	8		7	20	5	45		2			f	100
Rokeby	9	0.0	0.0	150	6.0	15.0		2						95	3							100
Roscommon S.D.	9	0.5	1.0	60	4.5	28.0				30				60	10						g	100
Rouleau	3	0.0	0.0	151	6.0	1.5								80	10	10						100
Round Lake (PA)	1	6.0	3.0	0	0.0	4.5															e	
Round Lake (Q.V.)	3	1.0	1.5	181	4.5	3.0			5	15					5	55	20				p	100
Saltcoats	16	22.0	11.0	300	15.0	32.0				60	10	10	10		10						f	100
Sask. Landing P.P.	4	6.0	3.0	275	10.0	0.0				5		10		35	25			25			g	100
Sask. River Forks	2	2.5	2.0	83	5.0	0.0	15	20	20	15			5	15	5		5				p	100
Saskatoon	93	61.9	45.7	702	49.3	106.0		2	1	10	1	1	1	7	9	62	4	2			f	100
Sawyer Lake	2	1.0	2.0	30	2.0	1.0		20		30				50							p	100
Shamrock	8	3.0	2.0	286	15.0	0.5								75	20	5						100
Spinney Hill	2	0.0	0.0	163	0.0	0.0		10	30	20		5		35							g	100
Squaw Rapids	4	2.5	2.0	273	14.1	0.5		60						10	10		20				p	100
Swift Current	27	34.5	28.5	408	29.5	7.0								23	8	67		2				100
Thickwod-Spiritwood	5	4.0	1.0	142	5.5	2.5		10	15	25			20	20	5	5					p	100
Togo	14	0.3	1.0	50	1.0	10.0	5	20	10	20	10			35							p	100
Weyburn	12	0.0	0.0	304	11.0	5.0	2	1		1	1	5	2	73	5	8	2				f	100
White Bear	4	2.0	2.0	260	8.0	0.0						15	5	50	30						f	100
Whitewood	19	12.0	3.5	360						5				5	5	85					p	100
Yorkton	19	4.0	1.0	101	9.0	9.0				50						50					g	100

Table 3-1. Species found on 6 or more counts; () = seen during Count Period (CP).

Map Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Archerwill 22 Dec 2014	Avonlea 3 Jan 2015	Balgonie 3 Jan 2015	Biggar 27 Dec 2014	Birch Hills 20 Dec 2014	Borden - Radisson 18 Dec 2014	Broadview 26 Dec 2014	Chatsworth S.D. 27 Dec 2014	Christopher Lake 18 Dec 2012	Churchbridge A 27 Dec 2014	Churchbridge B 27 Dec 2014	Clark's Crossing 20 Dec 2014
Canada Goose												240
Mallard												
Common Goldeneye												
Gray Partridge		10		24						10		57
Ring-necked Pheasant												
Ruffed Grouse	(1)				5					3	4	
Sharp-tailed Grouse		45	50	53		5						52
Bald Eagle												
Northern Goshawk												
Golden Eagle				1								
Rock Pigeon		5	119	46	72	120	31					381
Eurasian Collared-Dove		20		10		2						
Mourning Dove												
Great Horned Owl	(1)	1	2	2	1	1						1
Snowy Owl		(1)		1						1	1	1
Great Gray Owl	1											
Downy Woodpecker	2	1	5	5	6	6	4	6	2	2	2	10
Hairy Woodpecker	2	1	4	3	5	7	1	4	3	2	2	8
Northern Flicker				1								
Pileated Woodpecker												
Merlin						1						2
Northern Shrike					1	1						1
Gray Jay	2											
Blue Jay	16	1	2		1	7	2	4	1			5
Black-billed Magpie	17		89	52	60	125	27	21		6	2	318
Common Raven	12		71	33	12	72	17	8	(6)	6		429
Horned Lark			(3)	4		12				10		
Black-capped Chickadee	20		74	31	44	49	14	23	17	7	25	137
Boreal Chickadee	1			1					1			
Red-breasted Nuthatch				1			1				2	1
White-breasted Nuthatch	2	1	1	4	3	5	4	2	2		2	3
Brown Creeper												
American Robin												1
European Starling						3						165
Bohemian Waxwing			8	437	16	286						188
Snow Bunting	6	20	502	31	201	215	28	110		20		
Dark-eyed Junco	2	5		3		2	4		(1)			
Rusty Blackbird		1										
Pine Grosbeak	51		4	8	12	11			4			2
Purple Finch												
House Finch		3	2	21			1					118
Common Redpoll	40		16	105	96	10	40		50	30		32
Hoary Redpoll	10			3	1					10	3	
Pine Siskin				1								
American Goldfinch				1	40							
Evening Grosbeak	20								28			
House Sparrow	5	173	244	304	241	397	258	133		4	6	1427
Total Birds Count Day	209	288	1194	1187	817	1337	432	311	108	112	49	3582
Total Birds only in CP	4	1	3	1	0	0	2	0	7	0	0	0
Total Species Count Day	17	15	17	28	18	21	14	9	9	14	10	26
Total Species only in CP	6	1	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0

Table 3-2. Species found on 6 or more counts; () = seen during Count Period (CP).

Map Number	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Craven 20 Dec 2014	Creighton 3 Jan 2015	Crooked Lake 22 Dec 2014	Crooked River 1 Jan 2015	Cypress Hills P.P. 27 Dec 2014	Denholm 25 Dec 2014	Dorintosh 17 Dec 2014	Duval 21 Dec 2014	Eastend 2 Jan 2015	Ebenezer A 27 Dec 2014	Ebenezer B 30 Dec 2014	Endeavour 29 Dec 2014
Canada Goose												
Mallard	3		8						15			
Common Goldeneye	6		2									
Gray Partridge	14				(6)	(9)						
Ring-necked Pheasant									49			
Ruffed Grouse				1			(1)			2		3
Sharp-tailed Grouse	16	3			3	(20)	(2)	6	41			
Bald Eagle			1				(1)			1		
Northern Goshawk	2				1							
Golden Eagle					1	(1)						
Rock Pigeon	86	(1)	4			(40)		67	19	2		3
Eurasian Collared-Dove	5								16			
Mourning Dove						(1)						
Great Horned Owl	4					(1)		4				
Snowy Owl	2					1		2				
Great Gray Owl												
Downy Woodpecker	25	4	4	2	4	4	4	8	12	2		1
Hairy Woodpecker	13	7	3	3	1	2	2	1	4	3	1	3
Northern Flicker									2			
Pileated Woodpecker		1										(1)
Merlin	1								1			
Northern Shrike	1							1		1		
Gray Jay		9					2			1		
Blue Jay	24		1	2			6		7	1	2	5
Black-billed Magpie	128	13	18	1	12	68	(10)	38	63	9	3	4
Common Raven	77	241	9		7	15	8	41	(1)	11	7	16
Horned Lark						1		(9)	5			
Black-capped Chickadee	123	23	46	7	55	8	21	23	39	15	10	25
Boreal Chickadee		5										
Red-breasted Nuthatch			5		25		1		17			
White-breasted Nuthatch	21			2		1	1	1	1	4		6
Brown Creeper	1		1						(1)			
American Robin		1						1				
European Starling	65					(10)		12	7			
Bohemian Waxwing	399	50			150	(25)		54	91			
Snow Bunting	51					371	(100)	12	4	50	52	
Dark-eyed Junco	3	3			1				2			
Rusty Blackbird												
Pine Grosbeak		35		4			6					28
Purple Finch												
House Finch	52								1			
Common Redpoll	120	103		1		91		85	82	1		
Hoary Redpoll		21		1		1						
Pine Siskin									1			
American Goldfinch	49											
Evening Grosbeak		(1)		23			8	1				40
House Sparrow	160	25	10	1	9	40		249	190	1		9
Total Birds Count Day	1451	555	114	48	270	604	59	606	682	104	75	143
Total Birds only in CP	1	2	0	0	6	107	114	12	3	0	0	1
Total Species Count Day	27	19	15	12	13	13	10	18	25	15	6	12
Total Species only in CP	1	2	0	0	1	8	5	3	3	0	0	1

Table 3-3. Species found on 6 or more counts; () = seen during Count Period (CP).

Map Number	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
	Estevan 1 Jan 2015	Estuary North 1 Jan 2015	Fenton 19 Dec 2014	Floral 14 Dec 2014	Fort Qu'appelle 19 Dec 2014	Gardiner Dam 15 Dec 2014	Good Spirit Lake 19 Dec 2014	Grasslands N.P. 16 Dec 2014	Grayson 27 Dec 2014	Grenfell 4 Jan 2015	Harris 17 Dec 2014	Hudson Bay 27 Dec 2014
Canada Goose	8735				49	38						
Mallard	1745				31	3475		14	11			
Common Goldeneye	41				26	274			2			
Gray Partridge	6			14				23		3	28	
Ring-necked Pheasant	82	42						13				
Ruffed Grouse					2							1
Sharp-tailed Grouse	24	53				18		5		1	115	
Bald Eagle	2				4	27		1	1			
Northern Goshawk	1	1									1	
Golden Eagle	1					1		3				
Rock Pigeon	33		39	34	91	155	17	1		14	39	
Eurasian Collared-Dove	12				6			2			9	
Mourning Dove												
Great Horned Owl	1			3	(1)	8	(2)		1	1	3	
Snowy Owl	4	1		5		2		4			7	
Great Gray Owl							(1)					
Downy Woodpecker	8	2	1	7	25	4	6	1	5	1	3	3
Hairy Woodpecker	2		4	4	11	5	6		4	1	3	2
Northern Flicker	2	1				1						
Pileated Woodpecker		1										
Merlin	1			1				1				
Northern Shrike	2		1		1	1		2	1	1		
Gray Jay												2
Blue Jay		6	7		11	15	11		1	1	1	16
Black-billed Magpie	23	27	44	63	99	133	27	38	49	21	87	2
Common Raven	9	3	9	22	94	30	20	(1)	28	8	36	272
Horned Lark					1	2		9			5	
Black-capped Chickadee	21	16	22	45	138	20	80		60	2	27	16
Boreal Chickadee							1					2
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1				2	1						
White-breasted Nuthatch	6	2	1	1	23	2	5	1	1	1	2	
Brown Creeper	1			1		1						
American Robin				1	1	14		(1)				
European Starling	1	286		2	30	17		3		6		
Bohemian Waxwing		225	19	77	33	224				20		
Snow Bunting		3	50	2	41	17	200	60		236	100	200
Dark-eyed Junco	7	3	3		6	1			1	2	1	
Rusty Blackbird	16											
Pine Grosbeak		15	8		6	39	6				7	16
Purple Finch					30							
House Finch	2				2	1						
Common Redpoll		100	53	12	280	31			208			
Hoary Redpoll			3			1						
Pine Siskin					(1)	4						
American Goldfinch					1							
Evening Grosbeak			15									56
House Sparrow	224	45	11	385	75	818	44	100	10	112	302	5
Total Birds Count Day	11115	833	290	679	1136	5417	423	282	387	431	776	593
Total Birds only in CP	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	2	0	0	0	0
Total Species Count Day	38	19	17	18	32	41	12	19	17	17	19	13
Total Species only in CP	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0

Table 3-4. Species found on 6 or more counts; () = seen during Count Period (CP).

Map Number	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
	Indian Head 27 Dec 2014	Kenaston 26 Dec 2014	Kenosee Lake 30 Dec 2014	Ketche 26 Dec 2014	Kindersley North 26 Dec 2014	Kinloch 20 Dec 2014	Kutawagan Lake 4 Jan 2015	Kyle 19 Dec 2014	Lac La Plonge 29 Dec 2014	La Ronge 26 Dec 2014	NWA 5 Jan 2015	Leroy 5 Jan 2015
Canada Goose												
Mallard	84											
Common Goldeneye												
Gray Partridge	15	(12)			56			(6)				
Ring-necked Pheasant		(1)										
Ruffed Grouse	9			11		7			(1)			
Sharp-tailed Grouse	7	21			13		43	32			6	
Bald Eagle	14											
Northern Goshawk						(1)		2				
Golden Eagle								1				
Rock Pigeon	106	79			42		15	153			12	43
Eurasian Collared-Dove	8							14				
Mourning Dove								1				
Great Horned Owl					3		1	11			1	1
Snowy Owl	3	2			2		1	15			7	2
Great Gray Owl												
Downy Woodpecker	31		3	1		3				4	1	5
Hairy Woodpecker	29		5	3		5		(1)	1	1	1	
Northern Flicker												
Pileated Woodpecker						1						
Merlin	1							(1)				
Northern Shrike												
Gray Jay						2			3	4		
Blue Jay	15		26	3		29		3	1			2
Black-billed Magpie	80	12	24	11	15	42	31	130	6	(1)	22	55
Common Raven	106	3	25	49	2	21	10	7	134	180	3	42
Horned Lark	5	2					9	17				2
Black-capped Chickadee	176	4	100	9		44	2	(2)	4	15	9	23
Boreal Chickadee									1	1		
Red-breasted Nuthatch	10											
White-breasted Nuthatch	13		8			2					1	2
Brown Creeper												
American Robin												
European Starling	11					1		1			4	4
Bohemian Waxwing	150	(400)						327		(3)		
Snow Bunting	294	3			8	109	51	203			145	38
Dark-eyed Junco	5		3	2							1	
Rusty Blackbird	1											
Pine Grosbeak			11	37		31			4	37		
Purple Finch			8									
House Finch								4				3
Common Redpoll	6	(46)	104	62		276	5	2	3	20	1	62
Hoary Redpoll				8						1		
Pine Siskin	11											
American Goldfinch			9									
Evening Grosbeak				(6)		16			1	1		
House Sparrow	390	36	55	36	50	(16)	57	781			124	279
Total Birds Count Day	1595	162	381	232	191	589	225	1706	158	264	339	563
Total Birds only in CP	0	459	0	6	0	17	0	12	2	4	0	0
Total Species Count Day	27	9	13	12	9	15	11	20	10	10	16	15
Total Species only in CP	0	4	0	1	0	2	0	6	2	2	0	0

Table 3-5. Species found on 6 or more counts; () = seen during count period (CP).

Map Number	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
	Love-Torch River 26 Dec 2014	Luseland 26 Dec 2014	Meadow Lake 25 Dec 2014	Milestone 29 Dec 2014	Moose Jaw 14 Dec 2014	Moose Mountain P.P. 5 Jan 2015	Morse 19 Dec 2014	Nipawin 27 Dec 2014	Nisbet Forest NW 4 Jan 2015	Nisbet Forest West 31 Dec 2014	Odessa 24 Dec 2014	Ogema 30 Dec 2014
Canada Goose												
Mallard	(1)				13							
Common Goldeneye												
Gray Partridge		18					11					19
Ring-necked Pheasant							(1)					
Ruffed Grouse	1							2			2	
Sharp-tailed Grouse		5	2				2				16	
Bald Eagle	1						1	(1)			3	
Northern Goshawk	(1)											
Golden Eagle							1					
Rock Pigeon	21	41	2	196	85		51	14		1	4	20
Eurasian Collared-Dove		2			2		19					
Mourning Dove	1											
Great Horned Owl		2					12				2	1
Snowy Owl		3		7	7		7				2	1
Great Gray Owl			1									
Downy Woodpecker	13	1	3		2	1		5		4	4	
Hairy Woodpecker	12		1		2	2		3		2	6	
Northern Flicker							1					
Pileated Woodpecker	1										1	
Merlin												
Northern Shrike		(1)			1							
Gray Jay	12		2									
Blue Jay	19	12	2			11	2	19		4	2	
Black-billed Magpie	76	86	15	3	34	10	75	9		9	48	7
Common Raven	174	2	71		16	180	8	473	4	10	36	
Horned Lark		14					8					17
Black-capped Chickadee	147	16	9		12	31		82	12	32	54	
Boreal Chickadee	7							1				
Red-breasted Nuthatch	9	1	1		3		1	6				
White-breasted Nuthatch	20	(1)	1		6	6		5		2		
Brown Creeper					2		(1)					
American Robin												
European Starling	6			6	150		25	45				
Bohemian Waxwing		(1)				5	15	79		(10)		
Snow Bunting	186	304	11	1			1			55	25	5
Dark-eyed Junco	1	1					1					
Rusty Blackbird												
Pine Grosbeak	113	12	7		1	5		28		6		
Purple Finch												
House Finch		(1)			65		12					
Common Redpoll	109	111				10	50	81		12		
Hoary Redpoll	3											
Pine Siskin						2						
American Goldfinch												
Evening Grosbeak	306							79		47		
House Sparrow	62	95	7	253	303	12	935	25		6	50	200
Total Birds Count Day	1301	726	135	466	705	300	1239	956	16	190	255	270
Total Birds only in CP	7	4	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	10	0	0
Total Species Count Day	24	18	15	6	18	13	22	17	2	13	15	8
Total Species only in CP	3	4	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	0

Table 3-6. Species found on 6 or more counts; () = seen during count period (CP).

Map Number	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72
	Outlook 26 Dec 2014	Pike Lake 3 Jan 2015	Prince Albert 14 Dec 2014	Prince Albert N.P. 16 Dec 2014	Qu'appelle 28 Dec 2014	Qu'appelle Dam 14 Dec 2014	Raymore 25 Dec 2014	Regina 27 Dec 2014	Rokeby 5 Jan 2015	Roscommon S.D. 1 Jan 2015	Rouleau 31 Dec 2014	Round Lake (P.A.) 2 Jan 2015
Canada Goose								270				
Mallard			2			40		17				
Common Goldeneye	1		3			45						
Gray Partridge	4	16				14		66	32	1		
Ring-necked Pheasant								2				
Ruffed Grouse			3		(2)		(1)			10		
Sharp-tailed Grouse		31			40				5			
Bald Eagle			(2)			3						
Northern Goshawk		1					1					
Golden Eagle						1						
Rock Pigeon	2	81	158		58	40	3	997	73	4	73	
Eurasian Collared-Dove	30					6		1				
Mourning Dove												
Great Horned Owl		3	(1)		1	4	1	3	2			
Snowy Owl	1	1				2		5	1			
Great Gray Owl			(1)									
Downy Woodpecker	4	25	6		9	3	1	16	11	12		
Hairy Woodpecker	1	29	7	1	9	6	1	6	10	13		1
Northern Flicker	1	1	1					4				
Pileated Woodpecker		6										
Merlin	(1)							2				
Northern Shrike	(1)	1	1		3	1		(1)		1		
Gray Jay			9	3								
Blue Jay	10	44	21		4	18		8	2	13		2
Black-billed Magpie	16	116	140	6	107	37	36	55	42	39	2	1
Common Raven	57	55	361	10	174	19	64	89	67	27	1	2
Horned Lark							2					
Black-capped Chickadee	9	467	197	8	56	28	23	118	96	70		8
Boreal Chickadee			13									
Red-breasted Nuthatch	4	1	3				1	50				2
White-breasted Nuthatch	4	16	10		1	5	2	14		8		2
Brown Creeper								7				
American Robin	(3)	1	1			3		1				
European Starling	10	12				78		288			30	
Bohemian Waxwing	405	286	818		12	41	76	200		21		
Snow Bunting	15	310	203		9	22	2	60	10	1235	42	
Dark-eyed Junco		7	9			3	2	30		10		
Rusty Blackbird						1						
Pine Grosbeak	1	101	43			25	1		6	45		4
Purple Finch	2	1	4									
House Finch						7		224			4	
Common Redpoll		35	40		100	14	44	36	54	53		4
Hoary Redpoll												
Pine Siskin								(2)				
American Goldfinch					13							
Evening Grosbeak		1	45									14
House Sparrow	29	431	377		41	486	154	1450	266	62	90	
Total Birds Count Day	606	2082	2477	31	637	954	414	4038	685	1624	242	40
Total Birds only in CP	5	0	5	0	2	0	1	4	0	0	0	0
Total Species Count Day	20	28	27	6	16	29	17	31	16	17	7	10
Total Species only in CP	3	0	4	0	1	0	1	3	0	0	0	0

Table 3-7. Species found on 6 or more counts; () = seen during count period (CP).

Map Number	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84
	Round Lake (Q.V.) 16 Dec 2014	Saltcoats 27 Dec 2014	Sask. Landing P.P. 29 Dec 2014	Sask. River Forks 15 Dec 2014	Saskatoon 26 Dec 2014	Sawyer Lake 31 Dec 2014	Shamrock 2 Jan 2015	Spinney Hill 22 Dec 2014	Squaw Rapids 2 Jan 2015	Swift Current 20 Dec 2014	Thickwood Hills 21 Dec 2014	Togo 3 Jan 2015
Canada Goose	5				18							
Mallard	5				44					2		
Common Goldeneye	2				154				52			
Gray Partridge			7		29		64			20		
Ring-necked Pheasant			2							3		
Ruffed Grouse		6				1	15					3
Sharp-tailed Grouse			117	6	28		8	16	23	16		(23)
Bald Eagle	1		(3)		1				6			1
Northern Goshawk	1				4							
Golden Eagle	1		4				1	1		2		
Rock Pigeon	9	35	31	36	2432		23	42		312		
Eurasian Collared-Dove					12					73		
Mourning Dove					2					2		
Great Horned Owl			3				6		1	5	1	
Snowy Owl			6		(1)		5			8		
Great Gray Owl						(1)						2
Downy Woodpecker	7	14	1	1	31	(1)	2	2	3	10	3	9
Hairy Woodpecker	7	12		3	14	(1)		1	1	1	7	19
Northern Flicker					16					2		
Pileated Woodpecker				1	2			1	1			4
Merlin					2					3		
Northern Shrike	(1)											
Gray Jay						1			2			
Blue Jay	8	18	2	14	82	2		11	7		13	45
Black-billed Magpie	11	30	89	19	402	1	30	47	29	167	20	30
Common Raven	81	36	2	14	365	5	1	14	37	1	9	36
Horned Lark			14				76	2				
Black-capped Chickadee	33	90	4	30	848	14		32	15	21	35	97
Boreal Chickadee				1	1							3
Red-breasted Nuthatch		5			72		(1)	3		45		
White-breasted Nuthatch	6	12		1	17					3	2	8
Brown Creeper					1					2		
American Robin		1	3		3					4		
European Starling					57							
Bohemian Waxwing			288	60	1130			87			80	
Snow Bunting		330	400		31		823	120	160			26
Dark-eyed Junco			(3)		18					1		
Rusty Blackbird								1				
Pine Grosbeak				32	15	28		11	69	2	18	62
Purple Finch					1							
House Finch					409					63		
Common Redpoll	(15)		153	38	62		50	13	51	20		14
Hoary Redpoll					1				6			
Pine Siskin		8			3					20		5
American Goldfinch				1	11							
Evening Grosbeak				29		(54)			6			189
House Sparrow	18	18	305	25	1861	52	1080	33	15	796	50	112
Total Birds Count Day	195	648	1434	312	8226	104	2184	442	492	1631	238	666
Total Birds only in CP	16	0	8	0	2	59	1	0	0	2	0	28
Total Species Count Day	15	15	20	18	43	8	14	19	21	28	11	19
Total Species only in CP	2	0	4	0	2	6	1	0	0	1	0	1

Table 3-8. Species found on 6 or more counts; () = seen during count period (CP).

Map Number	85	86	87	88				
	Weyburn 20 Dec 2014	White Bear 4 Jan 2015	Whitewood 28 Dec 2014	Yorkton 29 Dec 2014	Totals Count Day	Totals only in Count Period	#Counts count day	# Counts only in count period
Canada Goose					9355	0	7	0
Mallard					5509	1	16	1
Common Goldeneye					608	0	12	0
Gray Partridge	39	24			624	33	27	4
Ring-necked Pheasant					193	2	7	2
Ruffed Grouse	10		5		106	6	22	5
Sharp-tailed Grouse	33	60			1020	50	38	3
Bald Eagle					68	7	16	4
Northern Goshawk		1	1		17	2	12	2
Golden Eagle	1	1			21	1	15	1
Rock Pigeon	212	38	87	234	7243	41	61	2
Eurasian Collared-Dove	20		16	4	289	0	22	0
Mourning Dove	6				12	1	5	1
Great Horned Owl	2	7	(1)		106	7	36	6
Snowy Owl	1	5			126	2	36	2
Great Gray Owl					4	3	3	3
Downy Woodpecker	3		22	10	473	1	72	1
Hairy Woodpecker	2		10	9	370	2	71	2
Northern Flicker					33	0	12	0
Pileated Woodpecker			(1)		20	2	11	2
Merlin			(1)		16	3	11	3
Northern Shrike			1		24	4	20	4
Gray Jay					54	0	14	0
Blue Jay			28	6	664	0	62	0
Black-billed Magpie	38	93	43	35	4168	11	83	2
Common Raven	21		30	349	5106	8	79	3
Horned Lark		44			261	12	22	2
Black-capped Chickadee			187	46	4596	2	77	1
Boreal Chickadee					39	0	14	0
Red-breasted Nuthatch	5			1	280	1	30	1
White-breasted Nuthatch	6		16	8	318	1	60	1
Brown Creeper					17	2	9	2
American Robin					36	4	14	2
European Starling	72				1397	10	29	1
Bohemian Waxwing			107	145	6609	439	36	5
Snow Bunting	15	571	75		8480	100	61	1
Dark-eyed Junco	5		4	10	162	4	35	2
Rusty Blackbird	20				40	0	6	0
Pine Grosbeak					1017	0	46	0
Purple Finch				1	47	0	7	0
House Finch	2		15		1011	1	21	1
Common Redpoll	1	70	67	24	3443	61	59	2
Hoary Redpoll		2			75	0	16	0
Pine Siskin			9		64	3	10	2
American Goldfinch			14	1	140	0	9	0
Evening Grosbeak					925	61	20	3
House Sparrow	215	565	383	349	19036	16	79	1
Total Birds Count Day	800	1482	1121	1233	84702	933		
Total Birds only in CP	0	0	4	0	933			
Total Species Count Day	24	14	21	17				
Total Species only in CP	0	0	4	0				

Table 4-1 Species found in fewer than 6 counts.

Species	Locality and Number (*=Count Period)
Cackling Goose	Estevan (19)
Tundra Swan	Gardiner Dam (1)
Northern Pintail	Fort Qu'Appelle (1)
Green-winged Teal	Fort Qu'Appelle (1), Moose Jaw (1)
Redhead	Gardiner Dam (8)
Greater Scaup	Gardiner Dam (7)
Lesser Scaup	Estevan (2), Fort Qu'Appelle (14), Gardiner Dam (3), Grayson (1),
Bufflehead	Crooked Lake (1), Estevan (8), Gardiner Dam (1)
Hooded Merganser	Estevan (2)
Common Merganser	Crooked Lake (1), Gardiner Dam (13), Grayson (3), Squaw Rapids (5)
Ruddy Duck	Estevan (1)
Greater Sage-Grouse	Grasslands N. P. (1)
Spruce Grouse	Archerwill (1*), Creighton (1), Lac La Plonge (1*)
Willow Ptarmigan	Creighton (5), Saskatchewan River Forks (1)
Pied-billed Grebe	Fort Qu'Appelle (1)
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Archerwill (1*), Broadview (1*), Kyle (1), Regina (1*), Whitewood (1*)
Red-tailed Hawk (Harlan's race)	Kyle (1*)
Rough-legged Hawk	Cypress Hills P.P. (1), Duval (1*), Eastend (4), Estevan (1)
American Coot	Estevan (3)
Northern Hawk Owl	Balgonie (1), Sawyer Lake (1*), Squaw Rapids (1)
Short-eared Owl	Last Mountain Lake NWA (1), Morse (1*)
Boreal Owl	Prince Albert (1*), Saskatchewan Landing P.P. (1), White Bear (1)
Northern Saw-whet Owl	Qu'Appelle Dam (1)
American Three-toed Woodpecker	Prince Albert (1), Squaw Rapids (2)
Black-backed woodpecker	Prince Albert N.P. (3), Sawyer Lake (1*)
Gyr Falcon	Gardiner Dam (1), Saskatchewan Landing P.P. (1*)
Prairie Falcon	Gardiner Dam (2), Kyle (1*), Qu'Appelle Dam (1)
American Crow	Craven(*), Kyle (1), Regina (1), Saskatoon (14), Yorkton (1)
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Biggar (1*), Gardiner Dam (1), Qu'Appelle Dam (1), Swift Current (2*), Saskatoon (10)
Townsend's Solitaire	Clark's Crossing (1), Pike Lake (1), Regina (1), Saskatoon (1)
Varied Thrush	Eastend (1*)
Cedar Waxwing	Biggar (1), Rokeby (8), Saltcoats (33)
Lapland Longspur	Moose Mountain P.P. (25), Weyburn (70)
American Tree Sparrow	Saskatchewan Landing P.P. (2)
White-throated Sparrow	Churchbridge A (1), Regina (2), Saskatoon (2)

Table 4-2. Species found in fewer than 6 counts.

Species	Locality and Number (*=Count Period)
Harris's Sparrow	Clark's Crossing (1), Prince Albert (1), Saskatoon (2)
Golden-crowned Sparrow	Broadview (1*)
Red-winged Blackbird	Denholm (1), Duval (2*), Estevan (65), Indian Head (15)
Brewer's Blackbird	Saskatoon (3), Togo (1), Whitewood (1)
Common Grackle	Estevan (1), Love-Torch River (1), Regina (1), Saskatchewan Landing P.P. (1*), Weyburn (1)
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch	Morse (1)
Cassin's Finch	Saskatoon (1*)
Red Crossbill	Eastend (9), Saskatoon (1), Swift Current (27)
White-winged Crossbill	Creighton (5), Love-Torch River (5*), Saskatoon (24), Spinney Hill (5)

Table 5. Birds not identified to species.

Category	Locality and Number (*=Count Period)
Large hawk sp.	Clark's Crossing (1)
Woodpecker sp.	Estuary North (1), Pike Lake (2), Saskatoon (2)
Falcon sp.	Avonlea (1)
Waxwing sp.	Regina (14)

Table 6. New (in bold and italics) and tying high counts for individual species 2014.

LOCATION	2014 COUNT	SPECIES	PREVIOUS HIGH	LOCATION, YEAR
Weyburn	6	Mourning Dove	6	Cypress Hill P.P., 2009; Swift Current , 2009
Prince Albert 1 (count period), Saskatchewan Landing, White Bear	1	Boreal Owl	1	South to Saskatchewan Landing and Indian Head
Broadview	1	Golden- crowned Sparrow	NEW	
Estevan	65	Red-winged Blackbird	37	Grasslands N.P., 1991
Saskatoon	1	Cassin's Finch (count period)	1	Fort Walsh, 1983; Saskatoon 2013
Craven	49	American Goldfinch	35	Whitewood, 2005

Figure 1. Location of 2014 counts (numbers correspond to those in text under **count areas and participants**).

Natural Vegetation Zones*

- A. Subarctic Woodland
- B. Northern Boreal Forest
- C. Southern Boreal Forest
- D. Aspen Parkland
- E. Mixed Prairie
- F. Dry Mixed Prairie
- G. Cypress Hills

*adapted from: Thorpe, J. 1999. Natural Vegetation. P. 133 in Atlas of Saskatchewan (K. Fung, ed). Univ. of Sask., Saskatoon.

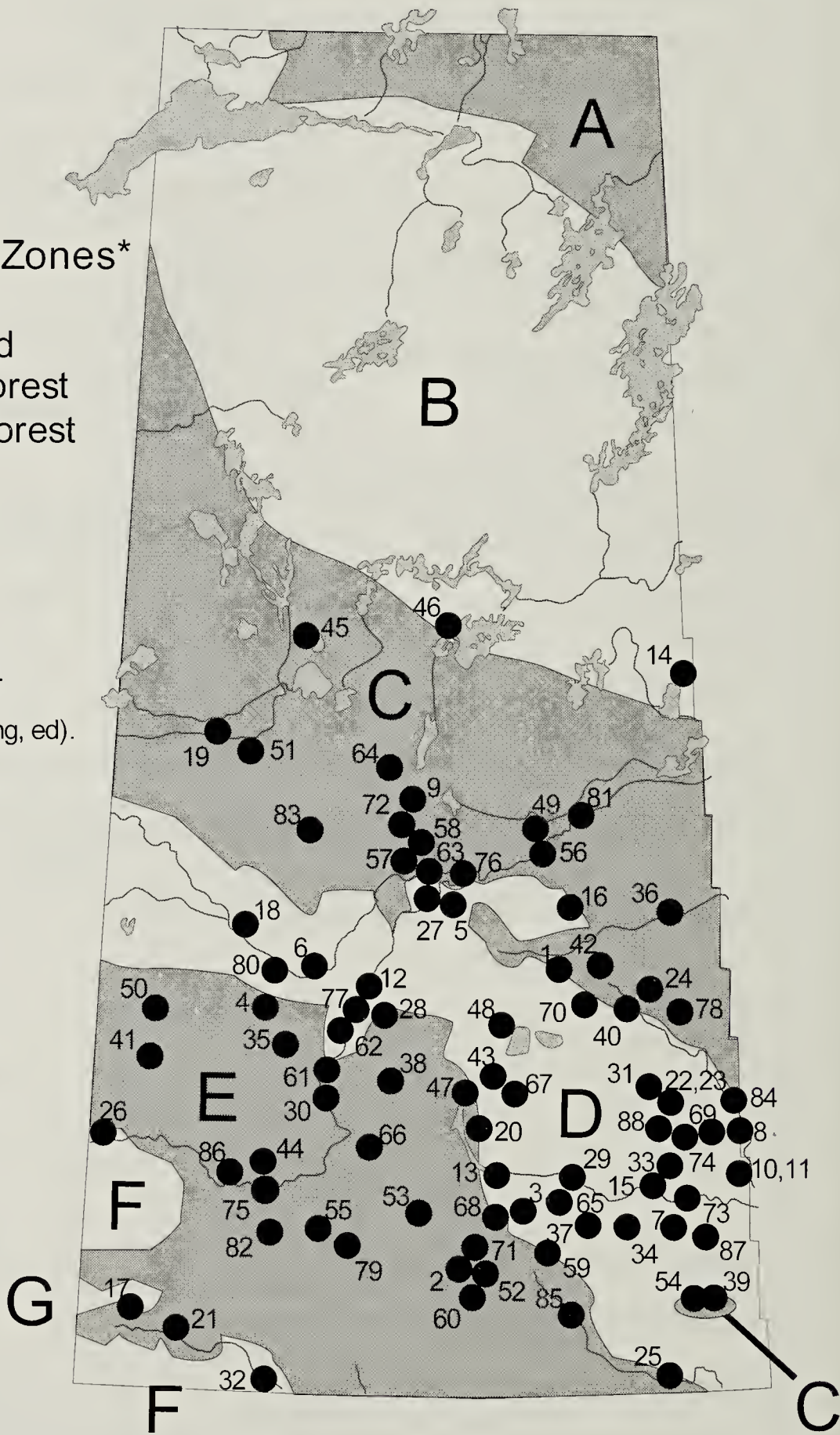


Table 7. Population changes in numbers of selected species in 2014* compared to 2013 and the average for 5 years (2009-2013, based on the number of birds per party hour. A minus sign indicates a decrease from previous years.

Species	% change from 2013	% change from 2009-2013		% change from 2013	% change from 2009-2013
Canada Goose	95	3	Common Raven	9	12
Mallard	-60	-31	Horned Lark	5	-81
Common Goldeneye	14	4	Black-capped Chickadee	-15	-1
Gray Partridge	-34	-50	Boreal Chickadee	13	-60
Ring-necked Pheasant	-18	-34	Red-breasted Nuthatch	6	-46
Ruffed Grouse	9	19	White-breasted Nuthatch	2	20
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-37	-16	Brown Creeper	170	32
Bald Eagle	0	-17	American Robin	-78	-69
Northern Goshawk	80	49	European Starling	80	24
Golden Eagle	43	6	Bohemian Waxwing	3	15
Rock Pigeon	-3	-2	Cedar Waxwing	-75	-75
Eurasian Collared-Dove	-51	-11	Snow Bunting	-56	-53
Great Horned Owl	9	6	Dark-eyed Junco	-25	10
Snowy Owl	-8	-7	Pine Grosbeak	96	-38
Downy Woodpecker	-9	6	House Finch	2	27
Hairy Woodpecker	-17	-4	White-winged Crossbill	80	-90
Northern Flicker	-32	-29	Common Redpoll	1291	-56
Pileated Woodpecker	73	3	Hoary Redpoll	NA	-23
Merlin	-15	-16	Pine Siskin	144	-83
Northern Shrike	-5	11	American Goldfinch	-12	107
Gray Jay	-14	-37	Evening Grosbeak	-41	-25
Blue Jay	-30	-8	House Sparrow	-8	1
Black-billed Magpie	-15	1			

**As tremendous changes can occur in small sample sizes only those species recorded on an annual average of six or more counts are included.*

EXCEPTIONAL MANITOBA BIRD RECORDS OF 2014

CHRISTIAN ARTUSO¹ AND RUDOLF KOES².

1. Birds Studies Canada, Manitoba Breeding Bird Atlas Coordinator.
Box 24, 200 Saulteaux Crescent, Winnipeg, MB, R3J 3W3,

Email: cartuso@birdscanada.org Toll-free telephone: 1-800-214-6497

2. 135 Rossmere Crescent, Winnipeg, MB, R2K 0G1,

Email: rcoes@mts.net

Manitoba was graced with a series of exceptional rarities in 2014, including our first Black-throated Sparrow, first modern records of Swallow-tailed Kite and MacGillivray's Warbler, and, most exceptional of all, our first Mississippi Kite which was also the first confirmed breeding record for Canada. The latter was the fifth species that Manitoba Breeding Bird Atlas (www.birdatlas.mb.ca) field work has added to Manitoba's list of confirmed breeding bird species. Also documented were the second confirmed records of Black Vulture and Eurasian Tree Sparrow and the first possible breeding record of Yellow-billed Loon.

Yellow-Billed Loon

As part of a 10-day out-trek in extreme northern Manitoba near the Hudson Bay coast, Ken Kingdon and the senior author recorded a Yellow-billed Loon 5 km north of the Caribou River and 21 km inland. On 21 June, Kingdon heard loon calls that were similar to Common Loon. Since

Red-throated and Pacific loons are the only two expected species in this area, Artuso searched the area and subsequently observed a Yellow-billed Loon in flight over a narrow channel between two lakes. The lighting and viewing conditions were excellent and the bird's massive size, black and white plumage, and bright yellow bill were clearly visible. It is not known if this was a single bird summering south of the usual range or a breeding effort. There are nine other records for Manitoba, one from southern Manitoba and eight from the mouth of the Churchill River, all of which are thought to pertain to migrants. Sightings just north of Manitoba on Neultin Lake in 1947 may pertain to local breeders.¹

Black Vulture

On 30 March 2014, Manitoba's second confirmed (third overall) Black Vulture flew over counters at the Windygates (Pembina Valley) Hawk Watch (photo: Raymond Klassen). There was also a later unconfirmed report of



Black Vulture

- *Raymond Klassen*

a Black Vulture near Whitemouth on 18 August. Interestingly, Saskatchewan's second sighting of a Black Vulture was a bird seen in Weyburn on 19 Apr 2014 (C. Bjorklund *fide* A. R. Smith).

Swallow-tailed Kite

On 22 May 2014 a group of flag-football players and coaches noticed a large bird flying overhead in Fraser's Grove Park, East Kildonan, Winnipeg. This park, located along the Red River, contains both grassy areas and mature deciduous river-bottom forest. The bird remained in the area from approximately 7 to 8 p.m. As none of the observers had ever seen a bird like this, they paid particular attention to it. The following are excerpts from a rare bird report that was submitted by observer Kyle Kushnier, via e-mail, to Koes.

"The underside of the bird was completely white with a black trim all the way around the bird. Somebody commented "It looks like a swallow on steroids" because of its deeply forked tail. It would flap its wings just to get above the tree canopy and then would soar for a while above the trees. It was like watching a children's kite fly the way it would move left to right without flapping its wings. It was very active when it flew".

The bird was seen in flight only, always from underneath, and no vocalizations were heard. Unfortunately no photographs were taken. A subsequent search by Kushnier in *The Birds of*

*Canada*² and on the Internet led to the identification of Swallow-tailed Kite. All other observers, including Jason Braun and Donovan Toews, agreed with the identification.

This was the first credible report of the species in Manitoba in over a century. Seton noted that two Swallow-tailed Kites were taken at Winnipeg in 1889 and 1892 and there were a few other reports in the south of the province up to the early 1900s.³ Unfortunately, as was often the case in those days, documentation was minimal and the whereabouts of the specimens are unknown. The species was a regular breeder in Minnesota until around 1900, but declined rapidly thereafter and has been a casual visitant since.⁴ Ontario boasts a number of records, but the species has not been reported in Alberta.^{5,6} Although not accepted on the official Saskatchewan list, there are 6 undocumented records from the 1880s to 1955 (A. Smith pers. comm.).

Mississippi Kite

For most Manitoba birders the highlight of 2014 was the unexpected appearance of a breeding pair of Mississippi Kites in Winnipeg. This was Manitoba's first record of this species and, as far as the authors are aware, the first and only breeding record in Canada, despite the fact that

there are 69 records in Ontario (A. Wormington, pers. comm.) and five records in Saskatchewan (A. R. Smith, pers. comm.). This species has been expanding its range northward, at least in part to increasing adaptation to suburban habitat,⁷ and has established breeding "outposts" as far north as Newmarket, New Hampshire (where breeding since 2008).⁸

On 27 July, Michael Loyd reported that he had been observing a raptor in the River Heights area of Winnipeg for 9 days that he felt could be a Mississippi Kite. Many birders flocked to the area and on 28 July John Weier and Donna Martin reported that they had seen not one, but two Mississippi Kites in flight. This prompted discussion on the Manitobabirds listserve about the possibility of a nest nearby and on 31 July two groups of birders, including Michelle Kading, Ray Iverson, Bob Shettler, Michael Loyd and others (one group viewing from a back lane and one from the street) independently located the nest, a small compact cup of sticks approximately 20 m high in a Bur Oak in a suburban yard, with one downy young.

On 8 August, Artuso estimated the chick to be approximately 24 or 25 days old, and observed it flapping its wings while standing



Mississippi Kite

- Michael Loyd

on the rim of the nest. Both adults were moulting by that point, with one or more inner primaries missing. Shortly before 5:00 pm that day, both adults landed on the nest simultaneously resulting in the chick falling from the rim all the way to the ground. Amanda Guercio and Kayla Putty rescued it and placed it back in the nest tree. Artuso consulted with James Duncan and Tracy Maconachie by telephone and, in an Herculean effort to salvage this nesting attempt, a team of Artuso, Bob Hodgson, Michael Loyd, Tracy Maconachie, Pierre Richard and Dan Spiers, who came with the

bucket truck of "Affordable Tree and Stump Removal", mounted a wooden crate to the nest tree below the nest and placed the chick in it. Despite early positive indications, with the adult kites calling and flying near the nest tree, the adults never returned to feed the chick. On 12 August, when the chick had been lying in the crate and seemingly moving very little for approximately 15 hours, and with adult Mississippi Kites being sighted in other parts of Winnipeg, the chick was taken down from the crate by Dennis Swayze and the aforementioned team and brought to the Assiniboine Park Zoo

Hospital. The head veterinarian, Dr. Chris Enright, found the chick to be in surprisingly good shape, thin but not emaciated and with reasonably good hydration given the circumstances. The chick recovered well and gained weight in the zoo's care.

Efforts are underway to rehabilitate and release the chick. Mississippi Kites have very low nesting success overall (rural nests average 0.6 fledglings per nest and urban/suburban nests average 1.1 or 1.2 depending on population).⁹ Premature fledging of the chick suggests that the adults were first time parents and the outcome of this nest is perhaps not particularly unusual

for this species under these circumstances.

MacGillivray's Warbler

On 24 May 2014, an unusual *Geothlypis* warbler was banded and photographed at Delta Marsh Bird Observatory, approximately 25 km north of Portage La Prairie. The bird was aged by wing and tail condition as a second year, and sexed as female by the pale gray head and chest without dark slaty markings and overall paleness of the breast (A. Guercio, pers. comm.). The photographs suggested MacGillivray's Warbler; the tail being noticeably shorter and the eye arcs being brighter white, thicker, and more restricted than the broken eye ring of female



MacGillivray's Warbler

- Amanda Guercio



Black-throated Sparrow

- Joy Snyder Manikel

Mourning Warblers. Identification was not confirmed until the bird was retrapped on 26 May. Measurements (61 mm wing, 64 mm flat wing, 54 mm tail) were out of range for Mourning Warbler (especially a female) and well within MacGillivray's range; flattened wing and tail formula also scored the bird as MacGillivray's.¹⁰

This is the first confirmed record of MacGillivray's Warbler in Manitoba. A specimen was apparently collected in 1925; however, it was damaged and not preserved.¹ There are also unconfirmed sight records from May 1943 and 2001.¹ Given the difficulty in identifying many

plumages of MacGillivray's from Mourning Warbler, it is possible that this species has strayed to Manitoba more frequently than these records suggest. This may also be true for Saskatchewan where intensive monitoring at Last Mountain Bird Observatory, a site 370km from the species nearest breeding location in the Cypress Hills, has yielded 7 records (A. R. Smith, pers. comm.)

Black-throated Sparrow

On 6 June, Joy Snyder Manikel photographed Manitoba's first Black-throated Sparrow in her yard near St. Jean-Baptiste (photo). Several Manitoba birders were able to view this bird the next day but it was not recorded after



Eurasian Tree Sparrow

7 June. This species is known to wander, including a record on 6 June 1991 in Hodgeville, Saskatchewan (Joel and Myrna Priebe, B. Luterbach, pers. comm.).

Eurasian Tree Sparrow

While participating in the Winnipeg Christmas Bird Count on 14 December 2014, Garry Budyk and John Weier discovered a Eurasian Tree Sparrow amongst a large flock of House Sparrows at a feeder in the northwest part of the city. The bird was subsequently seen and photographed by numerous observers and was still present in early February 2015. It represented the fourth record overall, but only the second confirmed sighting, for Manitoba.

There are no Saskatchewan records.

Acknowledgements

The authors thank M. Loyd for his detailed description of his experience first finding a Mississippi Kite. We also thank the two anonymous reviewers for their thoughtful comments.

1. Manitoba Avian Research Committee (2003) The birds of Manitoba. Manitoba Naturalists Society.
2. Godfrey WE (1986) The birds of Canada. Revised edition. National Museum of Natural Sciences, Ottawa, ON.
3. Seton ET (1908) Recent bird

records for Manitoba. *Auk* 25:450-454.

4. Kessen AE, Hertzell AX (1999) The historical record of the Swallow-tailed Kite in Minnesota. *Loon* 71:178-181.

5. Ontario Field Ornithologists (2014) Checklist of the birds of Ontario. 2014. <http://www.ofo.ca/site/page/view/checklist.checklist>

6. Royal Alberta Museum (2014) The official list of the birds of Alberta. <http://www.royalalbertamuseum.ca/research/lifeSciences/ornithology/birdlist/index.cfm>

7. Parker, JW (1999) Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*), The Birds of North America Online (A. Poole, Ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Retrieved from the Birds of North America Online:

<http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/402doi:10.2173/bna.402>

8. Swick, N (2014) Mississippi Kite – Manitoba. Retrieved from American Birding Association blog: <http://blog.aba.org/2014/08/abarare-mississippi-kite-manitoba.html>

9. Parker, JW (1999) Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*), The Birds of North America Online (A. Poole, Ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Retrieved from the Birds of North America Online: <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/402doi:10.2173/bna.402>

10. Pyle, P (1997) Identification guide to North American birds. Part I. Columbidae to Ploceidae. Slate Creek Press.



Mississippi Kite

- Michael Loyd

MAMMALS

42nd ANNUAL SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL - 2014

ALAN R. SMITH, Box 154, Avonlea, SK, S0H 0C0
Email: alanrandi@sasktel.net

Eighty-one Christmas Mammal Counts were conducted this winter –up 2 from last year. Only 1937 mammals were seen or heard this CMC compared to 2147 last year. Much of this is attributable to the cold, snowy winter of 2013-2014, the second consecutive harsh winter, which further reduced deer populations: White-tailed Deer from 733 to 598 and Mule Deer from 601 to 486.

While the deer famished, the squirrels flourished. The Eastern Fox Squirrel population continues to expand with animals at Duval, a new locality, and a record high count of 61 in Regina. Not to be outdone Swift Current had a record high count of 44 Eastern Grey Squirrels. Togo tied records it had previously set on the 2001, 2002, 2011, 2012 and 2013 counts for Northern Flying Squirrels at 4.

With 13 species seen or heard, Indian Head led all counts for the second year in a row and 7 of last 8 years. No new species were added this winter so the all-time provincial total remains

at 51 species seen or heard (plus three species found dead and two others recorded only on the basis of tracks).

For information on participants, weather, coverage and location of CMCs see the CBC summary in this issue.

Explanation of entries in Table 1. The number of mammals actually seen or heard on count day is treated separately from those recorded by other means, or those recorded during count period (14 December to 5 January) but not on count day. Numbers of individuals seen or heard are given in Table 1 and are tallied in the first line of totals at the bottom of the table. The number of species they represent is given in the second line.

For species only detected by tracks or by other means, or that are seen or heard only in the count period but not on count day, no numbers of individuals is given in Table 1. Species detected only

by tracks are indicated by 't' in the table; those detected only by other means (dead animals 'm', more clearly identifiable chewing or digging 'd', dens or lodges 'L' (including Muskrat push-ups) and by smell 's.' Species detected by any means during the count period, but not on count day are indicated by 'c' in the table. These

additional species are tallied in lines 3, 4 and 5 at the bottom of the table. If a mammal is reported as member of a species group (i.e. mouse species, deer species), it is counted as a species only if no other species in this group has been definitely recorded. The columns at the end of the table, give totals for each species.



Coyote

- Randy McCullough

Table 1-1. 42nd Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2014.

CBC Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Archerhill, 22 Dec 2014	Avonlea, 3 Jan 2015	Baigorie, 3 Jan 2015	Biggar, 27 Dec 2014	Birch Hills, 20 Dec 2014	Borden - Radisson, 18 Dec 2014	Broadview, 26 Dec 2014	Chatsworth S.D., 27 Dec 2014	Christopher Lake, 18 Dec 2012	Churchbridge A, 27 Dec 2014	Churchbridge B, 27 Dec 2014	Clark's Crossing, 20 Dec 2014	Craven, 20 Dec 2014	Creighton, 3 Jan 2015	Crooked Lake, 22 Dec 2014	Crooked River, 1 Jan 2015	Cypress Hills P.P., 27 Dec 2014	Denholm, 25 Dec 2014
SPECIES																		
Shrew species										m				t				m
Eastern Cottontail																		
Nuttall's Cottontail												1					t	
Snowshoe Hare			3	t	t	t	t		t			t		t				1
White-tailed Jack Rabbit	t		t	1			t					1						
Black-Tailed Prairie Dog																		
Eastern Grey Squirrel			1										10					
Eastern Fox Squirrel		2					4						8					
American Red Squirrel	4				4	3	5	1	1		2	1	10	1	1	1	15	c
Northern Flying-Squirrel																		1
Northern Pocket Gopher																		
American Beaver							L	L							L			
Deer Mouse					t		t											c
Muskrat				L	L			L					1		1			
Gapper's Red-Backed Vole					1													2
Meadow Vole																		
Vole species				t	t		t						3	t				
Norway Rat																		
House Mouse	c																	
Mouse species					t				1									
American Porcupine	c												t					
Coyote	2		2	2	t		3		t			10	4	t			1	1
Gray Wolf																		
Red Fox						1	2	1	t				1	t				c
Raccoon																		
American Marten																		
Fisher	t																	
Ermine					t										t			1
Long-tailed Weasel					t										t			
Least Weasel							t											c
Weasel species	t			t						1		1						
American Mink	t						t										t	
American Badger																		
Striped Skunk	t			s	t		t											
River Otter															t			
Mountain Lion																	t	
Canada Lynx															t			
Mule Deer						4						11	25				6	1
White-tailed Deer		2	6	t	t	6	t	7	t			15	9				9	3
Deer species	6					t						t						
Moose	c		t	2			2										t	c
Elk	c																	
Pronghorn																		
Totals seen/heard on count day	12	4	12	5	5	14	16	9	2	1	2	40	71	1	2	1	31	10
Total species seen/heard	3	2	4	3	2	4	5	3	2	1	1	7	9	1	2	1	4	7
Total species recorded by tracks	5	0	2	4	9	2	8	0	4	0	0	2	1	9	0	0	4	0
Total species otherwise recorded	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Species recorded count period	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Total species count period and day	12	2	6	9	10	5	14	5	6	2	1	8	10	10	3	1	8	13

Table 1-2. 42nd Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2014.

CBC Number	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	34	35	37	38
	Dorintosh, 17 Dec 2014	Duval, 21 Dec 2014	Eastend, 2 jan 2015	Ebenezer A, 27 Dec 2014	Ebenezer B, 30 Dec 2014	Endeavour, 29 Dec 2014	Estevan, 1 jan 2015	Estuary North, 1 jan 2015	Fenton, 19 Dec 2014	Floral, 14 Dec 2014	Fort Qu'Appelle, 19 Dec 2014	Gardiner Dam, 15 Dec 2014	Good Spirit Lake, 19 Dec 2014	Grasslands N.P., 16 Dec 2014	Grenfell, 4 Jan 2015	Harris, 17 Dec 2014	Indian Head, 27 Dec 2014	Kenaston, 26 Dec 2014
SPECIES																		
Shrew species		t										t						
Eastern Cottontail							3											
Nuttall's Cottontail		t	3					1				1						
Snowshoe Hare	t	t		t		t			t	1	2		1		t	1	2	
White-tailed Jack Rabbit		t	2					t		t		t	t		t	t	1	t
Black-Tailed Prairie Dog														6				
Eastern Grey Squirrel																		
Eastern Fox Squirrel		5					3				5				1			
American Red Squirrel	t	2		2		3			3		40	1	6				17	
Northern Flying-Squirrel																		
Northern Pocket Gopher																		
American Beaver			c	L							2		L					L
Deer Mouse									t		c				t			
Muskrat		L		L			L		L	L	4	1	L	1	L	L	1	L
Gapper's Red-Backed Vole											c							
Meadow Vole			1														1	
Vole species		t		t			t		t	t		t		1	t			
Norway Rat											c							
House Mouse								t			c						1	
Mouse species	t	t												1				
American Porcupine			1	1	1			1				1					2	
Coyote	t	2		3		1	1	1	2	3	1	5	1	3	t	2	7	7
Gray Wolf	t																	
Red Fox			1								c		t		1		6	2
Raccoon		t															4	
American Marten																		
Fisher																		
Ermine									t									
Long-tailed Weasel		t		t					t				t		t			
Least Weasel						1			t			t			t			
Weasel species										t							1	
American Mink	t														t			
American Badger		d																
Striped Skunk		t															1	t
River Otter	t										1							
Mountain Lion																		
Canada Lynx	1																	
Mule Deer		6	21				4	13		2	5	18		49		32	6	2
White-tailed Deer	39	24	8	7	3	7		29	t		12	13	11	20	2	26	5	11
Deer species		t																
Moose	c		6	1		2		5			c		t		t			t
Elk						17												
Pronghorn								15										
Totals seen/heard on count day	40	39	43	14	4	31	11	65	5	6	72	40	19	81	4	62	54	22
Total species seen/heard	2	5	8	5	2	6	4	7	2	3	9	7	4	7	3	5	13	4
Total species recorded by tracks	7	10	0	3	0	1	1	2	7	3	0	4	4	0	9	1	0	3
Total species otherwise recorded	0	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	2
Species recorded count period	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total species count period and day	10	15	9	10	2	7	6	9	10	7	15	11	10	6	13	7	13	9

Table 1-3. 42nd Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2014.

CBC Number	39	40	41	42	43	44	47	48	49	50	51	53	54	55	56	57	58	59
	Kenosee Lake, 30 Dec 2014	Ketchen, 26 Dec 2014	Kindersley North, 26 Dec 2014	Kinloch, 20 Dec 2014	Kutawagan Lake, 4 Jan 2015	Kyle, 19 Dec 2014	Last Mountain Lake NWA, 5 Jan 2015	Leroy, 5 Jan 2015	Love-Torch River, 26 Dec 2014	Luseland, 26 Dec 2014	Meadow Lake, 25 Dec 2014	Moose Jaw, 14 Dec 2014	Moose Mountain P.P., 5 Jan 2015	Morse, 19 Dec 2014	Nipawin, 27 Dec 2014	Nisbet Forest Northwest, 4 Jan 2015	Nisbet Forest West, 31 Dec 2014	Odessa, 24 Dec 2014
SPECIES																		
Shrew species																		
Eastern Cottontail																		
Nuttall's Cottontail						6												
Snowshoe Hare	t	t		t				t	t									
White-tailed Jack Rabbit	t				t	t	t	t					t	1			c	2
Black-Tailed Prairie Dog																		
Eastern Grey Squirrel																		
Eastern Fox Squirrel							1	t				14						3
American Red Squirrel	2			t					7				1		2		1	
Northern Flying-Squirrel																		
Northern Pocket Gopher																		
American Beaver	L	L		L														
Deer Mouse							t											
Muskrat	L				L		L	L						L				
Gapper's Red-Backed Vole																		
Meadow Vole				1														
Vole species				t			t									m		
Norway Rat																		
House Mouse																		
Mouse species						t		t						t				
American Porcupine							1		c	1								1
Coyote	1		t	1	t	6	t	t	1	1		1		4	1			2
Gray Wolf									t									
Red Fox	t			t					1	1				2	t			2
Raccoon				c														
American Marten																		
Fisher				t														
Ermine																		
Long-tailed Weasel								t	t					t				
Least Weasel														t	t			
Weasel species	t	t		t														
American Mink																		
American Badger														t				
Striped Skunk								t	s					s				
River Otter																		
Mountain Lion																		
Canada Lynx																		
Mule Deer			t		38	62	12							12				24
White-tailed Deer	4			t	26	4	37	3	9		1		2	56	10		2	10
Deer species		t			t		t	t										
Moose	t	1		1		t			t	6								
Elk		6		c					1									
Pronghorn						43								3				
Totals seen/heard on count day	7	7	0	2	65	121	51	3	19	9	1	15	3	78	13	0	3	44
Total species seen/heard	3	2	0	2	3	5	4	1	5	4	1	2	2	6	3	0	2	7
Total species recorded by tracks	5	3	2	7	3	3	5	8	4	0	0	0	1	4	2	0	0	0
Total species otherwise recorded	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0
Species recorded count period	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Total species count period and day	10	6	2	12	6	8	9	9	11	4	1	2	3	12	5	1	3	7

Table 1-4. 42nd Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2014.

CBC Number	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79
	Outlook, 26 Dec 2014	Pike Lake, 3 Jan 2015	Prince Albert, 14 Dec 2014	Prince Albert N.P., 16 Dec 2014	Qu'Appelle, 28 Dec 2014	Qu'Appelle Dam, 14 Dec 2014	Raymore, 25 Dec 2014	Regina, 27 Dec 2014	Roscommon S.D., 1 Jan 2015	Rouleau, 31 Dec 2014	Round Lake (P.A.), 2 Jan 2015	Round Lake (Q.V.), 16 Dec 2014	Saltcoats, 27 Dec 2014	Saskatchewan Landing P.P., 29 Dec 2014	Saskatchewan River Forks, 15 Dec 2014	Saskatoon, 26 Dec 2014	Sawyer Lake, 31 Dec 2014	Shamrock, 2 Jan 2015
SPECIES																		
Shrew species																		
Eastern Cottontail													1					
Nuttall's Cottontail	1					1								t				
Snowshoe Hare		t	t		t		t	t	t			t			t	2	c	
White-tailed Jack Rabbit		t						11	t					t		2		
Black-Tailed Prairie Dog																		
Eastern Grey Squirrel								14								2		
Eastern Fox Squirrel					9	4		61										
American Red Squirrel		2	14	6				1	1		2		2		7	5	c	
Northern Flying-Squirrel																		
Northern Pocket Gopher																		
American Beaver			L				L	L				L			L		L	
Deer Mouse		1	t												1	t	t	
Muskrat			L		L			L				L			L			
Gapper's Red-Backed Vole																		
Meadow Vole								t										1
Vole species			t		t				t						t	t	c	
Norway Rat																		
House Mouse								1										
Mouse species		t					t		t					t			t	
American Porcupine		2			c			2	t			t					t	
Coyote	1	2	t		5			4	t	3	3	1		7	t	11	t	5
Gray Wolf																	t	
Red Fox	1	1	t		2	1	1	t	1			t				1		3
Raccoon			1						t									
American Marten																		
Fisher											t						t	
Ermine			t												t		m	
Long-tailed Weasel																		
Least Weasel						1										1		
Weasel species		t			t			t	t									
American Mink					c			t							t	t	t	
American Badger									d									
Striped Skunk			m						s									
River Otter											t						t	
Mountain Lion																		
Canada Lynx											t				t			
Mule Deer						12		7	4					53				8
White-tailed Deer	1	9	1	4	2	8	2	t	t			2		10	3	53	c	
Deer species		t														t		
Moose					c	2			2					3	t		t	
Elk				10													t	
Pronghorn										c				5				
Totals seen/heard on count day	4	17	16	20	18	29	3	101	8	3	5	3	3	78	11	77	0	17
Total species seen/heard	4	6	3	3	4	7	2	8	4	1	2	2	2	5	3	8	0	4
Total species recorded by tracks	0	5	6	0	3	0	2	6	9	0	3	3	0	3	7	4	10	0
Total species otherwise recorded	0	0	3	0	1	0	1	2	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	2	0
Species recorded count period	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
Total species count period and day	4	9	12	3	11	7	5	16	15	2	5	7	2	8	12	11	16	4

Table 1-5. 42nd Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2014.

CBC Number	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88								
	Spinney Hill, 22 Dec 2014	Squaw Rapids, 2 Jan 2015	Swift Current, 20 Dec 2014	Thickwood Hills-Spritwood, 21 Dec 2014	Togo, 3 Jan 2015	Weyburn, 20 Dec 2014	White Bear, 4 Jan 2015	Whitewood, 28 Dec 2014	Yorkton, 29 Dec 2014	# individuals seen/heard count day	# Counts seen/heard	# Counts recorded as tracks	# Counts recorded as other	# Counts, count period	# Counts, count period & count day	High count	% Counts seen/heard
SPECIES																	
Shrew species										0	0	3	2	0	5	0	0.0
Eastern Cottontail								t		4	2	1	0	0	3	3	2.1
Nuttall's Cottontail			3				t			17	8	4	0	0	12	6	8.4
Snowshoe Hare		t			2			2	t	17	10	28	0	1	39	3	10.5
White-tailed Jack Rabbit	t		t	t		t	1	t	t	22	9	26	0	1	36	11	9.4
Black-Tailed Prairie Dog										6	1	0	0	0	1	6	1.0
Eastern Grey Squirrel			44							71	5	0	0	0	5	44	5.2
Eastern Fox Squirrel						22		3		145	15	1	0	0	16	61	15.7
American Red Squirrel	4	2		2				5	t	189	39	3	0	2	44	40	40.9
Northern Flying-Squirrel					4					5	2	0	0	0	2	4	2.1
Northern Pocket Gopher				d						0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0.0
American Beaver				d				L		2	1	0	17	1	19	2	1.0
Deer Mouse										2	2	8	0	2	12	1	2.1
Muskrat			3					L		12	7	0	23	0	30	4	7.3
Gapper's Red-Backed Vole										3	2	0	0	1	3	2	2.1
Meadow Vole										4	4	1	0	0	5	1	4.2
Vole species			1	t						5	3	19	1	1	24	3	3.1
Norway Rat										0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0.0
House Mouse								1		3	3	1	0	2	6	1	3.1
Mouse species			t				t			2	2	13	0	0	15	1	2.1
American Porcupine	t									14	11	5	0	3	19	2	11.5
Coyote	3	1	2	2	2	m	t			134	46	14	1	0	61	11	48.3
Gray Wolf		t			t					0	0	5	0	0	5	0	0.0
Red Fox	t		t		1	1	t	1		35	23	12	0	2	37	6	24.1
Raccoon										5	2	2	0	1	5	4	2.1
American Marten					c					0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0.0
Fisher										0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0.0
Ermine								t		1	1	6	1	0	8	1	1.0
Long-tailed Weasel					1					1	1	10	0	0	11	1	1.0
Least Weasel										3	3	6	0	1	10	1	3.1
Weasel species				t				t		3	3	12	0	0	15	1	3.1
American Mink			1							1	1	9	0	1	11	1	1.0
American Badger			1							1	1	1	2	0	4	1	1.0
Striped Skunk					m					1	1	6	6	0	13	1	1.0
River Otter		t								1	1	5	0	0	6	1	1.0
Mountain Lion										0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0.0
Canada Lynx										1	1	3	0	0	4	1	1.0
Mule Deer			13			30	6			486	29	1	0	0	30	62	30.4
White-tailed Deer	1	7	16	4	10	17	10	t	t	598	53	10	0	1	64	56	55.6
Deer species		t	t							6	1	11	0	0	12	6	1.0
Moose					1			3		37	14	10	0	5	29	6	14.7
Elk				t	c					34	4	2	0	3	9	17	4.2
Pronghorn										66	4	0	0	1	5	43	4.2
Totals seen/heard on count day	8	10	84	8	21	70	17	15	0	1937							
Total species seen/heard	3	3	9	3	7	4	3	6	0		32						
Total species recorded by tracks	3	4	4	4	1	1	4	4	5			29					
Total species otherwise recorded	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	2	0				9				
Species recorded count period	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0					18			
Total species count period and day	6	6	11	9	11	6	7	12	5						39		



Pronghorn

- Randy McCulloch

OVERLOOKED RECORDS OF RACCOONS IN SASKATCHEWAN

LESLIE M. OYSTRYK, P.O. Box 362, Creighton, SK S0P 0A0
C. STUART HOUSTON, 863 University Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7N 0J8

The Raccoon was rare in Saskatchewan until the 1950s (see below), restricted mainly to the southern sixth of the province, with an occasional specimen found in the Souris, Pipestone and Qu'Appelle valley systems, and one outlier at Meadow Lake.¹ Because raccoons hibernate in winter (from mid-November to early March in southern Manitoba about 1900,²) and are mainly nocturnal in summer, it was 1972 before it became apparent how common they had become; best indicated by the steady increase in annual Saskatchewan pelt sales.³

The best early account of the Raccoon, inexplicably overlooked, was in Ernest Thompson Seton's large, two-volume *Life Histories of Northern Mammals*, subtitled more accurately *The Mammals of Manitoba* (1909).² Raccoon pelts had been shipped from the Red River settlement in Manitoba by the Hudson's Bay Company to London to be manufactured into "overcoats, sleigh-robies and motor-car wraps," an average of 1,847 per year from 1821 to 1905. Farther south, American companies averaged 382,091 per

year, 1821-1891. John Richardson confirmed that about one hundred skins yearly were sent from Red River settlement in the 1820s. By 1909 raccoons had spread north to Waterhen River on the southeast side of Lake Winnipegosis and west to Fort Ellice near the future Saskatchewan boundary, and north to present-day Runnymede. On rare occasions a raccoon wandered even farther west. George F. Guernsey at Fort Qu'Appelle knew of two taken in the Touchwood Hills in the 20 years prior to 1906 and in Alberta, presumed singles reached the Peace River country in 1890, Red Deer in 1903 and Wetaskawin in 1905. In northwestern Ontario, one had reached Attawapiskat Lake 52°N. 87°W in 1893, ranging more widely "than might be expected from such a slow-footed creature".²

By the time of Harvey Beck's *Mammals of Saskatchewan*, 1958, raccoons had reached the Souris and Pipestone River valleys in the southwest, the Qu'Appelle Valley northwest of Regina; two more in the southern sixth of the province were farther west near Mossbank and Hodgeville; one



Raccoon

- Randy McCulloch

had wandered as far northwest as Meadow Lake suggesting to Beck a more extensive range. This was confirmed by a flurry of reports that barely missed being listed in Beck, from Pleasantdale in 1954, Beechy and Leacross in 1956,⁴ and Kindersley and Torch River in 1958.^{5,6} The indication of range expansion from these reports was further bolstered by the 54 pelts

sold in Saskatchewan in 1956. One wintered in the Gunn garage at Good Spirit Lake, January to March 1958 (Joyce Gunn Anaka, who showed CSH the photo). A decade later, raccoons had reached farther north and west to Mullingar 1968, and Christopher Lake and Northside in 1969-70.³

An even greater wandering of the

raccoon has come to light 70 years after the event -- from extreme northeastern Saskatchewan in the late 1930s. On 1 January 1936 James M. Cumines of Brochet, MB, was appointed a Game Guardian II to patrol far northern Saskatchewan and Manitoba, on either side of the 102nd degree of longitude, including Wollaston Lake in Saskatchewan and Reindeer and Kasmere Lake in Manitoba. His salary was paid by the two provinces, \$50 per month each.⁷

The location where he collected a raccoon pelt is marked on Jim Cumines' map of his route by dog team in winter from Brochet at the north end of Reindeer Lake, across to the northeast corner of Wollaston Lake in Saskatchewan, then north to trapper Ben Larson's camp just south of the three unofficial "Sunrise Lakes," now officially named Kingston (57° 58', 102° 30'), Burnett (59° 07' 102° 03'); and Hara (59° 02' 102° 18'). Cumines' dog team was stopped by fog at trapper Ben Larson's cabin on 4 December 1939. An 18-mile trip by dog team the next day took them by 5 pm to the "Indian Camp" at "Middle Sunrise Lake," probably Burnett Lake on modern maps, corroborated by the Cumines' map. There, Cumines was shown the pelt of a raccoon, an animal the local First Nations trappers had never seen

before. It had been trapped by Paul Jose Eyene, now spelled Joseyeunen, who turned it over to Jim Cumines. One presumes that animal may have simply wandered north, perhaps as far as 1000 km from its known range near Lake Winnipegosis.

1. Beck WH (1958) A guide to Saskatchewan mammals. Spec. Publ. 1, Sask. Natural History Society, Regina.
2. Seton ET (1909) Raccoon, vol. 2, 1010-1029 In Life Histories of Northern Mammals: The Mammals of Manitoba. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, NY.
3. Houston CS, Houston MI (1973) A History of raccoons in Saskatchewan. *Blue Jay* 31:103-104.
4. Santy D (1958) Unusual animals of the Beechy district. *Blue Jay* 16:36-37.
5. Fox G (1958) Another raccoon record. *Blue Jay* 16(4): 179.
6. Francis CS (1959) Raccoons in Saskatchewan (lists Saskatchewan pelt totals, 1950-57). *Blue Jay* 17:30.
7. Oystryk L (2011) The Adventures of Cumines of the North. *Sask History* 63(1):40-44. Richardson, J. 1829. *Fauna Boreali-Americana*, volume 1, *The Mammals*. John Murray, London.



PLANTS

FIRST REPORT OF DISK WATER-HYSSOP (*Bacopa rotundifolia* (Michx.) Wettst.) IN SASKATCHEWAN

SARAH VINGE-MAZER, Saskatchewan Conservation Data Centre, Regina, SK Email: sarah.vingemazer@gov.sk.ca

Disk water-hyssop (*Bacopa rotundifolia* (Michx.) Wettst., Fig. 1) has been verified to occur in Saskatchewan for the first time in 2014. This finding adds a new species of vascular plant to the province's native flora.

Ltd. containing photos of an unknown plant. The plants were found in flower on August 28, 2013 in an area located a few miles north of Oungre, Saskatchewan. The habitat consisted of a bare wetland margin surrounded by a canola crop (Fig. 2).¹



Figure 1. Detail of the flower of disk water-hyssop. - Sarah Vinge-Mazer

In 2013, the Saskatchewan Conservation Data Centre (SKCDC) received an email identification request from Jennifer Rumancik of Stantec Consulting

It took some time to conclude the existence of this candidate species since disk water-hyssop had never before been shown to occur in Saskatchewan.² The species



Figure 2. General view of the disk water-hyssop site found in 2013
- Jennifer Rumancik

was included in Saskatchewan's flora by Kartesz,³ but this proved to be in error.⁴ In view of the lack of conclusive evidence (e.g., a voucher specimen) from the 2013 observation, the SKCDC botanical team made plans in 2014 to explore the site from which the plants were first observed.

Coordinates and photographs from two sites on the wetland margin were acquired from the original observer to assist the SKCDC personnel in locating the plants. Permission was obtained from the landowner to access and search for this plant in the suggested land. A visit was made

on August 5, 2014. At the site, the wetland in discussion had been ditched and drained, and the given coordinates were within the outer edge of a cereal crop. Despite the change to the habitat, two observers undertook a three-person-hour census exploration of both the immediate and surrounding area to look for plants, but none were found. SKCDC observers then selected nearby wetlands to search in areas which appeared to have a similar habitat to that shown in the photos from 2013. No plants were found in the first search (effort was not quantified), but a few minutes into the second, plants



Figure 3. Wetland-margin habitat of the disk water-hyssop site found in 2014. Flags denote the distribution of plants (flag colour is not significant).
 - Sarah Vinge-Mazer



Figure 3. zoomed in on flags
 were found. The specimens were documented, quantified and a voucher specimen was collected and the identification subsequently verified at the W.P.

Fraser Herbarium (SASK) of the University of Saskatchewan.⁵
 Disk water-hyssop, formerly in Scrophulariaceae, is now part



of the Plantaginaceae family.⁶ It is an aquatic or semi-aquatic perennial, with stems prostrate or floating, and often rooting at lower nodes. Leaves are opposite, sessile, entire and obovate-cuneate to suborbicular with palmate venation. One to four flowers are produced in the axils of the upper leaves, with pedicels usually shorter than the subtending leaves. Flowers are weakly bilabiate, and the corolla is white with a yellow throat (Fig. 1). The five-parted calyx has three outer segments that are ovate to subrotund and two inner that are lanceolate. The four stamens are didynamous, and the style is forked with two lobes. The fruit of this plant is a subglobose capsule, containing numerous small, ellipsoid to cylindrical seeds which have longitudinally arranged reticulations.⁷

The wetland in which disk water-hyssop was found in 2014 consisted of a ditch at the corner of two roads, in an area otherwise surrounded by cropland. The plants were located on the edge of the wetland opposite the roads (e.g. where the margins were not steep), mostly in the mudflat or drawdown zone at the margin of standing water (Fig. 3). They were found thriving in saturated soil. Associated vegetation was not recorded, but both mid-height and

tall plants were lacking at the time of the observation. The number of disk water-hyssop plants in the wetland was estimated at 100 individuals over approximately 30 square meters.

With only a single known locality in the province, in addition to two potential known threats (wetland drainage and cropping), this taxon has been provincially ranked as an S1 (high risk of extirpation from the province).⁸ Alberta is the only other province in Canada in which disk water-hyssop occurs,⁹ where it is also currently an S1.¹⁰ The taxon's national rank is currently N1 (high risk of extirpation from the country), but on a global level it is considered secure as a G5.¹¹

Further data on the local distribution of the taxon is sought and as such the SKCDC plans to conduct additional botanical explorations the area in 2015. In spite of the fast pace in habitat fragmentation, this discovery supports the conservation of remnant natural habitats acting as refugia with ideal conditions for native rare species within agricultural landscapes.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Nicole Kearns, Lauren Carlson, and Jennifer Rumancik from Stantec Consulting Ltd. for the information they provided to locate the 2013 site; to Hugo

Blue Jay

Cota-Sanchez from the W.P. Fraser Herbarium and University of Saskatchewan for verifying the identification of the voucher specimen and for review of this text; and to Hailey Rudniski for her help in the field.

1. Jennifer Rumancik, pers. comm.

2. Vernon L. Harms, pers. comm.

3. Kartesz JT, The Biota of North American Program (BONAP) (2014) Taxonomic Data Center, Chapel Hill, NC: <http://bonap.net/tdc>, accessed: November 27, 2014. [maps generated from Kartesz JT (2014) Floristic Synthesis of North America, Version 1.0. Biota of North America Program (BONAP) (in press)]

4. John Kartesz, pers. comm.

5. Hugo Cota-Sanchez, pers. comm.

6. Stephens PF (2001 onwards) Angiosperm Phylogeny Website, version 12, July 2012: <http://www.mobot.org/MOBOT/research/APweb/welcome.html>, accessed December 12, 2014.

7. McGregor RL, Barkely TM, eds (1986). Flora of the Great Plains. University Press of Kansas. Lawrence, KS.

8. Master LL, Faber-Langendoen D, Bittman R, Hammerson GA, Heidel B, Ramsay L, Snow K, Teucher A, Tomaino A (2012) NatureServe Conservation Status Assessments: Factors for Evaluating Species and Ecosystem Risk. NatureServe, Arlington, VA.

9. NatureServe (2014) NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 7.1. NatureServe, Arlington, VA: <http://explorer.natureserve.org>, accessed: November 27, 2014 .

10. Alberta Conservation Information Management System (2014) List of tracked and watched elements. Government of Alberta, Tourism, Park and Recreation: <http://www.albertaparks.ca/albertaparksca/management-land-use/alberta-conservation-information-management-system-%28acims%29/tracking-watch-lists.aspx>, accessed November 27, 2014.

11. NatureServe (2014) NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 7.1. NatureServe, Arlington, VA: <http://explorer.natureserve.org>, accessed: November 27, 2014.



NOTES and LETTERS

I wish to recognize and thank Gord Hammell for his recent article in Blue Jay 72 (3) September 2014 titled; ERICKSON STUDY AREA; DUCK BREEDING POPULATIONS AND HABITAT, THEN (1970- 72) AND NOW (2008-13).

I read and reread Gord's excellent documentation in changing waterfowl populations and numbers over the span of four decades. Although my observations are much less scientific than Gord's, I could not help but notice that his observations in general mirrored what I have seen on my farm in the aspen parkland region south of Indian Head, Saskatchewan. In his chart comparing the increases and declines in duck species populations over the 40 year period, with the exception of Goldeneye, which do nest here, my observations and records mimic Gord's findings.

As an example Lesser Scaup, Northern Pintail and American Widgeon have declined significantly. On the other hand, Ring-necked Ducks and Bufflehead that were rare 40 years ago are now common. I observed three broods of Bufflehead young in 2014 and at least one pair nested in an artificial nest box.

Many of Gord's other observations are very comparable to mine at Indian Head. Raccoons arrived in the mid-1960s. Canada Geese were notable as nesting in the mid-1970s and are now common breeders. Beaver also became more common in the 1970s and very common in the last decade, with record water levels. Ravens were observed during the winter in the 1990s and began nesting after 2000.

Although my farm is some 250 km straight west of Gord's it appears that general population trends in waterfowl numbers and wildlife in general are fairly consistent and widespread. It is very important that we document all observations in our ever changing natural world. For 70 years Blue Jay has been a repository for natural history and conservation information for Saskatchewan and adjacent regions.

Lorne Scott
Box 995,
Indian Head, SK.
S0G 2K0
Email: lorne.scott@sasktel.net





Ruddy ducks

- Randy McCullough

MUSHROOM SERIES - INKY CAPS

CHRIS HAY

Email: chris.r.j.hay@gmail.com

Remember those mushrooms that popped up in your lawn or garden but the next time you went to check on them there was nothing but a splat of black goo? Introducing... the inky caps! Yes, once these mushrooms are past their prime they will rapidly autodigest their gills (they are “deliquescent”). Often the cap surface disintegrates in the process, leaving a lonely white stem to wither away. This is a common and distinct group of mushrooms that are saprobic (growing off dead organic matter) but can be found in a variety of habitats, from urban areas to forests. They are also surprisingly well-studied (given how ephemeral they are), even in Saskatchewan.¹

First a little about their taxonomy - their scientific naming. The inky caps used to correspond directly with a family all of their own, the Coprinaceae. Recent molecular phylogenetic analyses have discarded this name and placed them the families Agaricaceae and Psathyrellaceae, which both include many mushrooms that do not turn to ink.³ If you want a technical name for your inky cap but don't know what family or genus it belongs in, you might want to simply call it a “coprinoid” mushroom.² At the

genus level, the name *Coprinus* used to conveniently apply to most inky caps. Now it has been split and most of the inky caps are under the (more fancifully named) genera: *Coprinellus*, *Coprinopsis*, and *Parasola*. One of a few exceptions to this re-naming was the type specimen for the genus: *Coprinus comatus*.

Coprinus comatus is the classic inky cap, the “shaggy mane” or “lawyer’s wig”. It is also probably the most commonly seen, as it tends to turn up around the house: on your lawn, in wood chips, and your garden. It is bigger and fleshier than other inky caps and has a distinct shaggy texture on the outside of the cap. The most similar looking species is probably the “magpie fungus” *Coprinopsis picacea*, which tends to have a more dark brown backdrop to the white scales on the cap, and grows in forests.

Another cool variation on *Coprinus comatus* is the “desert shaggy mane” *Podaxis pistillaris*. It grows in arid environments and looks like a shiny, dried up, malformed shaggy mane that never opened or turned to ink. If you cut it open, you will see it doesn't have gills, but a granular powdery mess. In this way it is similar to stalked

puffball mushrooms, but its actual relationship is closer to the shaggy mane. The shaggy mane is by far not the only mushroom to have a weird gasteroid (stomach-like) counterpart; it seems they exist for every other well known mushroom around! This includes *Lactarius* (the milk bleeders), *Cortinarius* (brown spored forest mushrooms, with “curtains”), and even *Leccinum* (a bolete – with pores/ tubes instead of gills).

Back to the inky caps, what about some other ones you may encounter? *Coprinopsis atramentaria* or “tippler’s bane” grows from decaying wood (often buried) and is commonly found in clusters around trees or stumps (with old roots below ground) in either urban areas or forests. *Coprinellus micaceus* or the “mica cap” has pretty, sparkly, mica-like particles covering the cap surface (at least until rain washes



The snowy inky cap (Coprinopsis nivea) on bison dung at Grasslands National Park, SK. Its snowy particles have started falling off onto surrounding vegetation and the cap’s fringes are beginning to turn up as the gills liquefy.

- Heather Saunder

them off). Otherwise it looks very similar and has a similar ecology. *Coprinopsis nivea* or the “snowy inky cap” is kind of like our shaggy mane, but instead of shaggy scales has fluffy white particles that easily fall off. It grows on dung. Each of these three medium-sized examples are actually from their own subsection with a handful of species that are very similar and would require careful

discrimination (sometimes delving into their beautiful microscopic features) before being absolutely sure on their identification.⁴ There are countless other tiny coprinoid mushrooms that are fascinating to behold once you start noticing them. For example *Coprinopsis lagopus* the “hare’s foot mushroom” can be found sprouting off tiny bits of decaying matter and standing only 1mm tall



Typical young *Coprinopsis atramentaria* (tippler’s bane) clustered at the base of a tree in an aspen forest.

- Chris Hay

(though this same species can be found rather medium-sized as well!). *Coprinellus disseminatus* is tiny but grows in dense clusters, sometimes solidly covering a good area of ground. This guy doesn't follow our rules and is an example of a coprinoid mushroom that actually doesn't turn to ink. However, it looks unmistakably similar and is phylogenetically related.

I encourage you to take a closer look at an inky cap next time you find one. Note where it is growing, the texture or particles on the cap, what the stem is like... And of course, after a good look, be sure to take a picture (it will last longer)!

1. Bisby GR, Buller AH, Dearness J, Fraser WP, Russell RC, Gussow HT (1938) The Fungi of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Ottawa,

Canada: National Research Council of Canada.

2. Kuo M (2008) Coprinoid mushrooms: The inky caps. <http://www.mushroomexpert.com/coprinoid.html>

3. Redhead SA, Vilgalys R, Moncalvo J-M, Johnson J, Hopple JS (2001) *Coprinus* Pers. and the disposition of *Coprinus* species *sensu lato*. *Taxon* 50(1), p. 203-241.

4. Uljé K (2001) Studies in *Coprinus* – keys to subsections and species in *Coprinus*. <http://www.grzyby.pl/coprinus-site-Kees-Uljee/species/Coprinus.htm>



CHRIS HAY

Chris grew up in Winnipeg, MB, where he studied Environmental Science with a focus on conservation and biodiversity for his undergraduate degree. Two years ago he had the opportunity of working at Grasslands National Park, SK, and has missed the open Saskatchewan sky and landscape ever since! Chris has had a fascination with fungi from a young age when he received a small Audubon field guide to common mushrooms. Currently he is studying at Western University (London, ON) conducting his MSc research on Agaricomycetes (mushrooms) of tall grass prairies. He is thrilled to share his love for fungi with the readers of Nature Saskatchewan.

MYSTERY PHOTO

March 2015 Mystery Photo:

Can you explain what is happening with the Mule Deer in this photo? The photo was taken near Watrous, SK in March 2014. Detailed explanations are welcome!

Please send your answers to the Blue Jay editors:

bluejay@naturesask.ca

correct answers will be entered into a draw for a prize from Nature Sask.



- Kerry Hecker

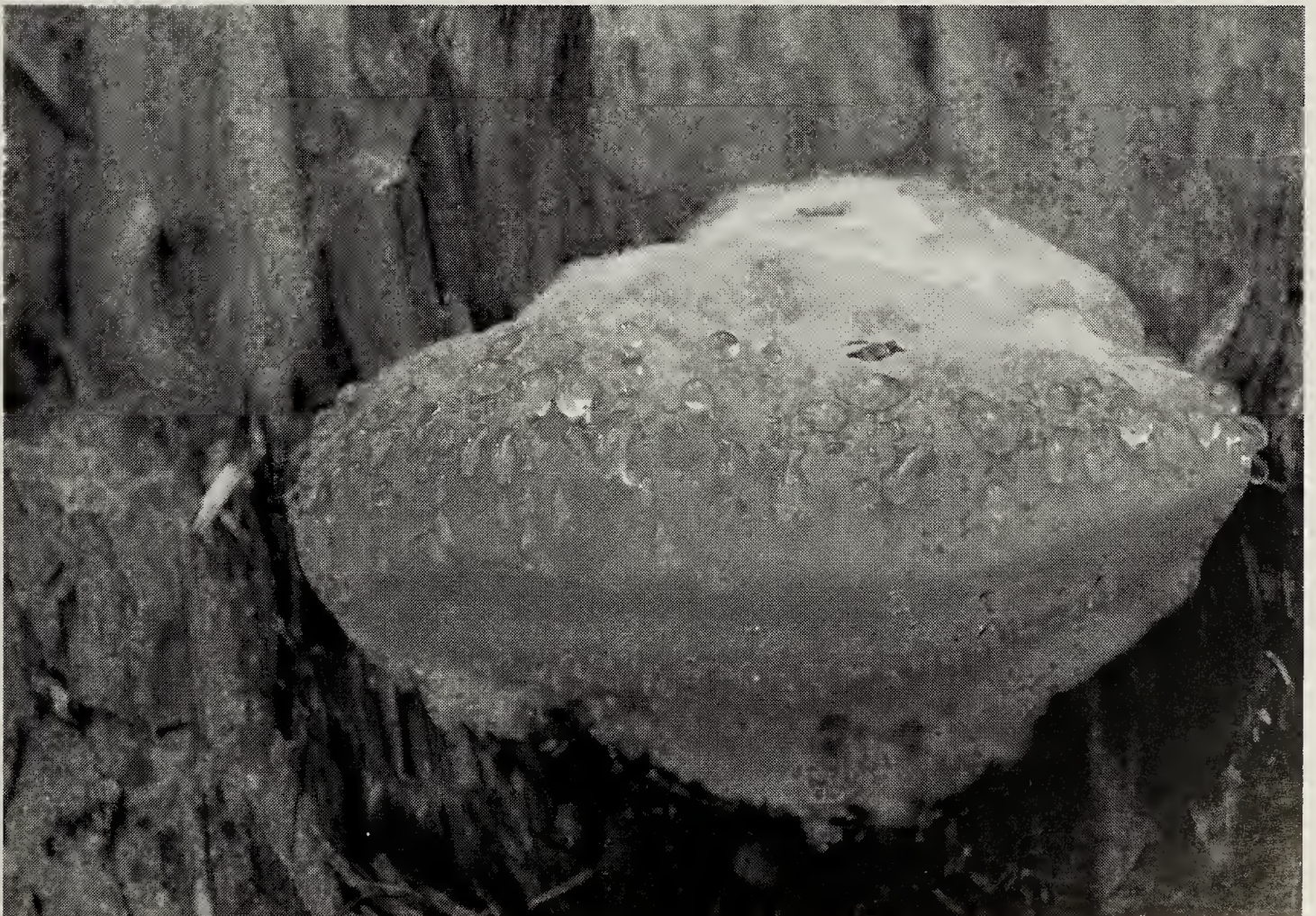
Blue Jay

Answer to December 2014 Mystery Photo

Our new mushroom series author, Chris Hay (a really fungi), consulted with Dr. Greg Thorn from University of Western Ontario for the answer to this issue's Mystery Photo.

Dr. Thorn writes: "I would bet that these photos show a young *Fomitopsis pinicola*. It looks like a coniferous host, and the guttation is quite typical of this species."

Chris explains: The "guttation" is the sweat. For more details about this interesting phenomenon, see an article in *Omphalina* - the name of a fungi publication from Newfoundland <http://collections.mun.ca/PDFs/omphalina/Volume03No3.pdf> with great photos for comparison on pages 10 and 11. And here's a 'readers digest' version on a great fungi blog I found: http://weirdandwonderfulwildmushrooms.blogspot.ca/2014_08_01_archive.html



- Randy McCulloch

Blue Jay, founded in 1942 by Isabel M. Priestly, is a journal of natural history and conservation for Saskatchewan and adjacent regions. It is published quarterly by **Nature Saskatchewan, 206-1860 Lorne Street, Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 2L7.**

CN ISSN 0006-5099

Editors: Kerry Hecker and Lowell Strauss P.O. Box 247 Simpson, SK S0G 4M0

Email: bluejay@naturesask.ca

Associate Editors: Mark Brigham, Marlene Evans, Vernon Harms, Stuart Houston, Josef Schmutz, Carol Scott.

EDITORIAL INFORMATION: Blue Jay welcomes all submissions, preferably by E-mail (although hand-written or typed manuscripts will be considered), polished or in need of some editorial assistance. All items for publication should be sent to the editors electronically by E-mail or on CD, or hard copies (in duplicate) may be sent by mail to the editors at the address above. Electronic submissions should only be submitted in Microsoft Word. Submission deadlines are 1 January (for the March issue), 1 April (for June), 1 July (for September), and 1 October (for December). For detailed information, see the "Guidelines for Authors" in Blue Jay Vol. 68 (2). Diether Peschken abstracts Blue Jay for Recent Ornithological Literature. Titles of Blue Jay articles are listed in BIOSIS.

Common and scientific (Latin) names are used for all species. Common bird names follow the Checklist of North American birds by the American Ornithologists' Union (7th edition, 1998); mammal names: Mammal Species of the World by Wilson & Reeder; butterfly names: The Butterflies of Canada by Layberry et al.; and names of reptiles and amphibians follow Scientific and Standard English Names of Amphibians and Reptiles of North America north of Mexico, with Comments Regarding Confidence in our understanding, Seventh Edition, SSAR Herpetological Circular No. 39. (Brian I Crother, ed.) (2012).

Photographs may be submitted as digital images or as prints. For the best quality reproduction on paper, high-resolution (≥ 600 DPI) images are required, although in some cases, lower-resolution images may provide sufficient quality. Digital images can be sent by E-mail directly to the editors, or if the files are very large, they should be put on a CD and mailed to the editors at the address above.

Although Nature Saskatchewan will make every effort to return prints to you, we recommend that you make a copy in case your items are lost in the mail. We encourage submission of photographic material with articles and welcome colour photos for Blue Jay covers.

Any material printed in Blue Jay may be reprinted for non-commercial purposes, without permission, but credit lines are both appreciated and good etiquette. Use of photographs and poetry requires permission from the photographer/author.

REPRINTS: a maximum of five reprints is available to authors free of charge for each article. Authors wishing to receive reprints should send their request to the Nature Saskatchewan office as soon as they receive notice that their article is accepted for publication.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Subscription to Blue Jay is one of the benefits of membership in Nature Saskatchewan. A membership application form is included on the last page of each issue. Send all renewals, new memberships, donations and changes of address to Nature Saskatchewan (address at top).

Bulk subscription orders (minimum of five to one address) are available to society members and educational institutions at the rate of \$15 (Can.) for the first subscription and \$13 for each additional one. Outside Canada, fees are \$18 (Can.). We do not collect GST on memberships or subscriptions.

Printed by Administration Centre Printing Services, Regina, SK.

THIS ORGANIZATION RECEIVES FUNDING FROM



FUNDING
PROVIDED BY



Board of Directors

For more information please contact our office:

Honorary President.....	J. Frank Roy
Past President.....	Donna Bruce
President	Tara Sample
Vice-president.....	vacant
Secretary	Nicole Dunn
Treasurer	Ed Rodger
Conservation Director.....	Dean Cattell
Education Director.....	Vinessa Currie-Foster
Directors.....	Joan Feather
	Branimir Gjetvaj
	Suzanne Henry
	Nicole Dunn
	Vladimir Kricsfalusy
	Hamilton Greenwood
	Rob Wilson

OFFICE AND PROGRAM CONTACTS

Executive Director	Jordan Ignatiuk
Communications Manager.....	Ellen Bouvier
Conservation & Education Manager.....	Lacey Weekes
Species at Risk Manager.....	Melissa Ranalli
Office Coordinator	Rebecca Quist
Habitat Stewardship Coordinator (Rare Plant Rescue)	Kristen Martin
Habitat Stewardship Coordinator (Operation Burrowing Owl).....	Kaytlyn Burrows
Habitat Stewardship Coordinator (Shrubs for Shrikes/Plovers on Shore).....	Rebecca Magnus
Last Mountain Bird Observatory	Alan Smith
Nature Quest.....	John Murray
Inner Nature.....	Jeanne Corrigan
Plantwatch Saskatchewan Coordinator.....	Lacey Weekes
Turkey Vulture Tracking	Stuart Houston

CONTACTS FOR LOCAL SOCIETIES & AFFILIATES

Fort Qu'Appelle Natural History Society.....	Keith Stephens
Indian Head Natural History Society.....	Irv Escott
Kelsey Ecological Society.....	Kathleen Pitt
Nature Moose Jaw.....	Russ McKnight
Nature Prince Albert	Carman Dodge
Nature Regina	Dale Hjertaas
Neudorf Nature Trails & Wild Bird Sanctuary Society.....	Keith Gerstner
Saskatoon Nature Society	Joan Feather
Southwest Naturalists	Norma Hain
Weyburn Nature Society.....	Val Thomas (Sec.)
Yellowhead Flyway Birding Trail Association	Martin Phillips
Yorkton Natural History Society.....	Geoff Rushowick
Chaplin Tourism Association.....	Clem Millar
Meadow Lake Woodlanders Junior Forest Wardens.....	Neil Marsh

PUBLICATIONS

Blue Jay Editors.....	Kerry Hecker & Lowell Strauss
Nature Views Editors	Rob Warnock & Angela Dohms
Special Publications Editor.....	Anna Leighton



Mississippi kite chick

- Christian Artuso



Eurasian tree sparrow

- Gary Budyk



Nature
SASKATCHEWAN

U OF A LIBRARY 5/1 M
BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERVICES (P)
5TH FLOOR CAMERON
EDMONTON AB T6G 2J8

Publication Mail Agreement #40063014
Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to:
Administration Centre Printing Services
111-2001 Cornwall Street
Regina, SK S4P 3X9
Email: adminprint@sasktel.net